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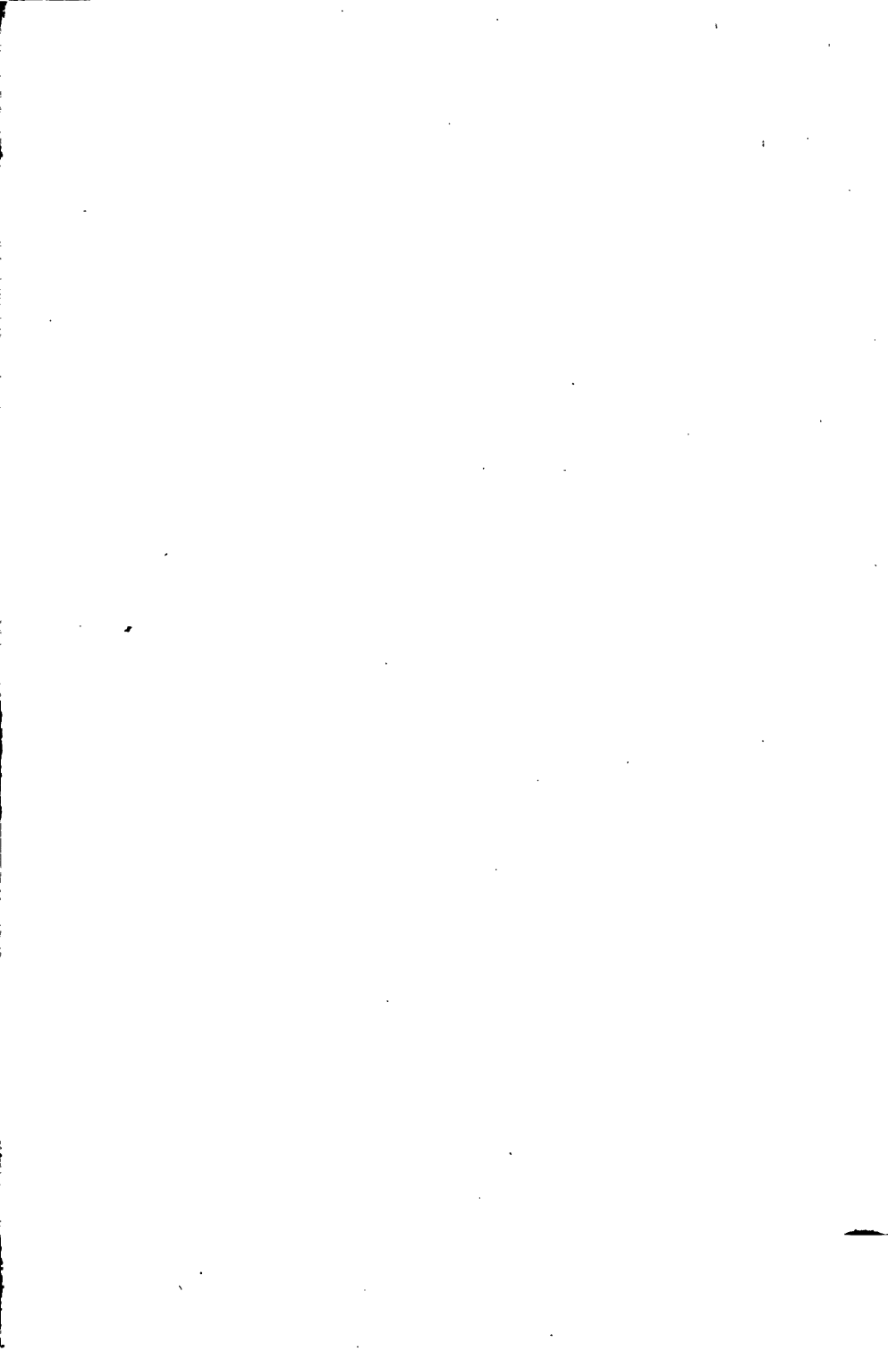
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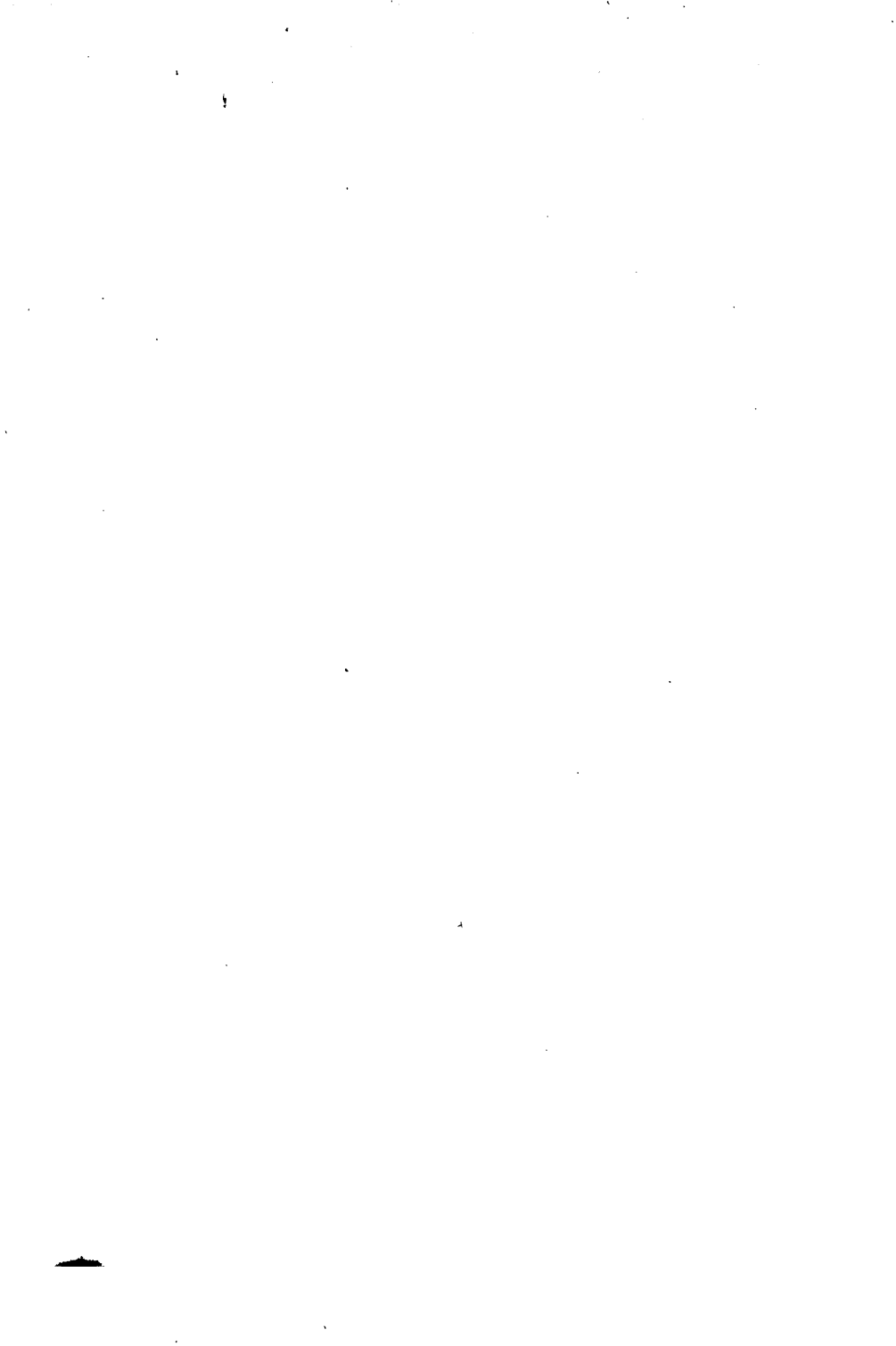
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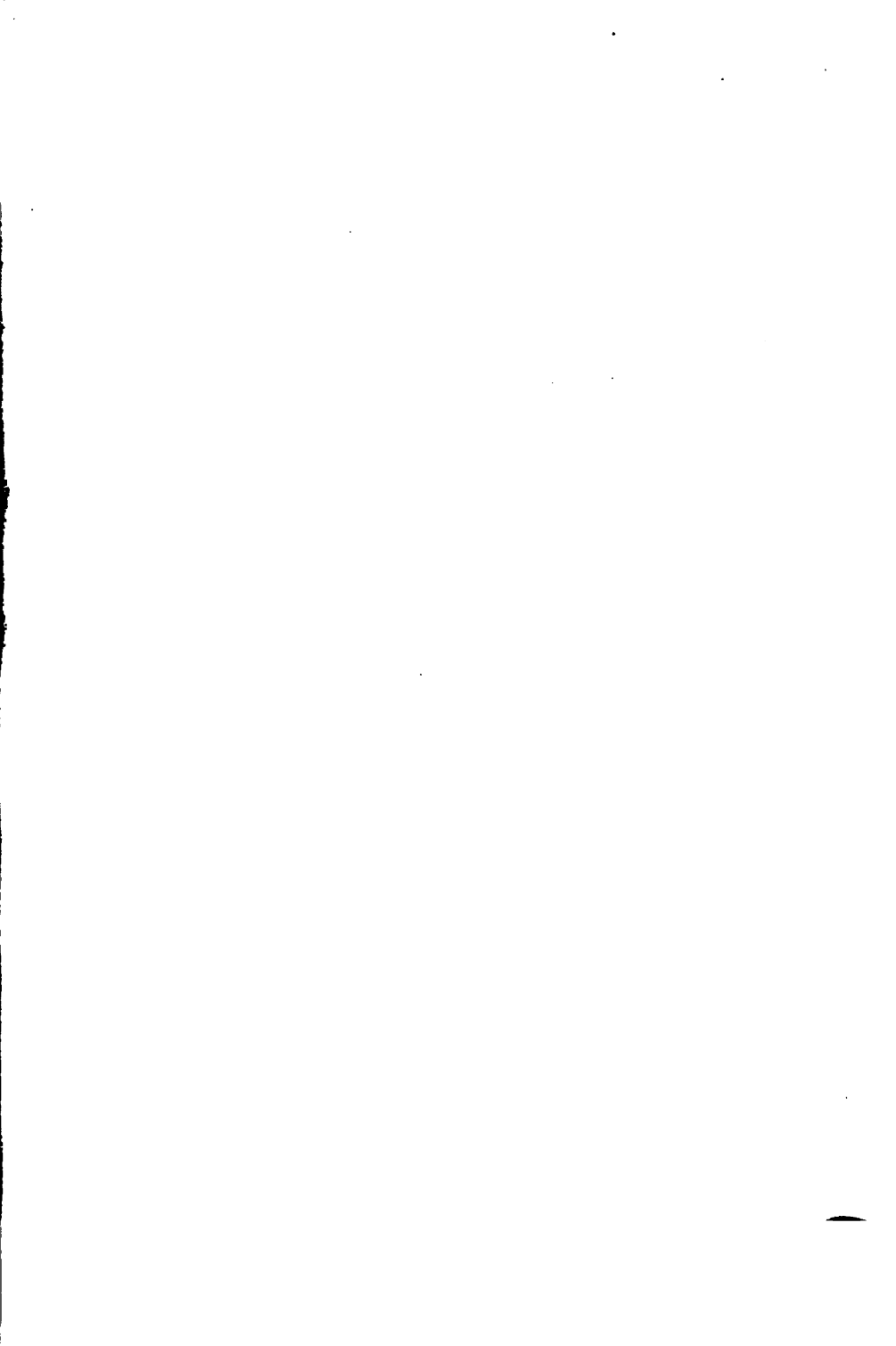
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THE

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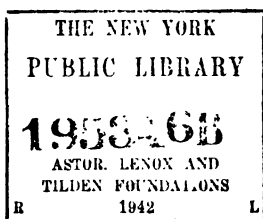
HENRY WADSWORTH ^WLONGFELLOW.

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P O E M S.



VOICES OF THE NIGHT.

PRELUDE.

PLEASANT it was, when woods were green,
And winds were soft and low,
To lie amid some sylvan scene,
Where, the long drooping boughs between,
Shadows dark and sunlight sheen
Alternate come and go ;

Or where the denser grove receives
No sunlight from above,
But the dark foliage interweaves
In one unbroken roof of leaves,
Underneath whose sloping eaves
The shadows hardly move.

Beneath some patriarchal tree
I lay upon the ground ;
His hoary arms uplifted he,
And all the broad leaves over me
Clapped their little hands in glee,
With one continuous sound ; —

A slumberous sound, — a sound that brings
The feelings of a dream, —
As of innumerable wings,
As, when a bell no longer swings,
Faint the hollow murmur rings
O'er meadow, lake, and stream.

And dreams of that which cannot die,
Bright visions, came to me,
As lapped in thought I used to lie,
And gaze into the summer sky,
Where the sailing clouds went by,
Like ships upon the sea ;

Dreams that the soul of youth engage
Ere Fancy has been quelled ;
Old legends of the monkish page,
Traditions of the saint and sage,
Tales that have the rime of age.

And, loving still these quaint old themes,
Even in the city's throng
I feel the freshness of the streams,
That, crossed by shades and sunny gleams,
Water the green land of dreams,
The holy land of song.

Therefore, at Pentecost, which brings
The Spring, clothed like a bride,
When nestling buds unfold their wings,
And bishop's-caps have golden rings,
Musing upon many things,
I sought the woodlands wide.

The green trees whispered low and mild ;
It was a sound of joy !
They were my playmates when a child,
And rocked me in their arms so wild !
Still they looked at me and smiled,
As if I were a boy ;

And ever whispered, mild and low,
“ Come, be a child once more ! ”
And waved their long arms to and fro,
And beckoned solemnly and slow ;
O, I could not choose but go
Into the woodlands hoar ;

Into the blithe and breathing air,
Into the solemn wood,
Solemn and silent everywhere !
Nature with folded hands seemed there,
Kneeling at her evening prayer !
Like one in prayer I stood.

Before me rose an avenue
Of tall and sombre pines ;
Abroad their fan-like branches grew,
And, where the sunshine darted through,
Spread a vapor soft and blue,
In long and sloping lines.

And, falling on my weary brain,
Like a fast-falling shower.

Low lispsings of the summer rain,
Dropping on the ripened grain,
As once upon the flower.

Visions of childhood! Stay, O stay!
Ye were so sweet and wild!
And distant voices seemed to say,
"It cannot be! They pass away!
Other themes demand thy lay;
Thou art no more a child!

"The land of Song within thee lies,
Watered by living springs;
The lids of Fancy's sleepless eyes
Are gates unto that Paradise,
Holy thoughts, like stars, arise,
Its clouds are angels' wings.

"Learn, that henceforth thy song shall be,
Not mountains capped with snow,
Nor forests sounding like the sea,
Nor rivers flowing ceaselessly,
Where the woodlands bend to see
The bending heavens below.

"There is a forest where the din
Of iron branches sounds!
A mighty river roars between,
And whosoever looks therein,
Sees the heavens all black with sin,—
Sees not its depths, nor bounds.

"Athwart the swinging branches cast,
Soft rays of sunshine pour;
Then comes the fearful wintry blast,
Our hopes, like withered leaves, fall fast;
Pallid lips say, 'It is past!
We can return no more!'

"Look, then, into thine heart, and write!
Yes, into Life's deep stream!
All forms of sorrow and delight,
All solemn Voices of the Night,
That can soothe thee, or affright,—
Be these henceforth thy theme."

HYMN TO THE NIGHT.

I saw her sable skirts all fringed with light
From the celestial walls!

I felt her presence, by its spell of might,
Stoop o'er me from above;
The calm, majestic presence of the Night,
As of the one I love.

I heard the sounds of sorrow and delight,
The manifold, soft chimes,
That fill the haunted chambers of the Night,
Like some old poet's rhymes.

From the cool cisterns of the midnight air
My spirit drank repose;
The fountain of perpetual peace flows there,—
From those deep cisterns flows.

O holy Night! from thee I learn to bear
What man has borne before!
Thou layest thy finger on the lips of Care,
And they complain no more.

Peace! Peace! Orestes-like I breathe this
prayer!
Descend with broad-winged flight,
The welcome, the thrice-prayed-for, the most
fair,
The best-beloved Night!

A PSALM OF LIFE.

WHAT THE HEART OF THE YOUNG MAN SAID TO THE
PSALMIST.

TELL me not, in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream!
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.

Life's real! Life is earnest!
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.

Not enjoyment, and not sorrow,
Is our destined end or way;
But to act, that each to-morrow
Find us farther than to-day.

I HEARD the trailing garments of the Night

Art is long, and Time is fleeting,

Still, like muffled drums, are beating
Funeral marches to the grave.

In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of Life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!

Trust no Future, howe'er pleasant!
Let the dead Past bury its dead!
Act,—act in the living Present!
Heart within, and God o'erhead!

Lives of great men all remind us
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints on the sands of time;

Footprints, that perhaps another,
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Let us, then, be up and doing,
With a heart for any fate;
Still achieving, still pursuing,
Learn to labor and to wait.

THE REAPER AND THE FLOWERS.

THERE is a Reaper, whose name is Death,
And, with his sickle keen,
He reaps the bearded grain at a breath,
And the flowers that grow between.

"Shall I have naught that is fair?" saith he;
"Have naught but the bearded grain!
Though the breath of these flowers is sweet to
me,
I will give them all back again."

He gazed at the flowers with tearful eyes,
He kissed their drooping leaves;
It was for the Lord of Paradise
He bound them in his sheaves.

"My Lord has need of these flowerets gay,"
The Reaper said, and smiled;
"Dear tokens of the earth are they.

"They shall all bloom in fields of light,
Transplanted by my care,
And saints, upon their garments white,
These sacred blossoms wear."

And the mother gave, in tears and pain,
The flowers she most did love;
She knew she should find them all again
In the fields of light above.

O, not in cruelty, not in wrath,
The Reaper came that day;
'T was an angel visited the green earth,
And took the flowers away.

THE LIGHT OF STARS.

THE night is come, but not too soon;
And sinking silently,
All silently, the little moon
Drops down behind the sky.

There is no light in earth or heaven,
But the cold light of stars;
And the first watch of night is given
To the red planet Mars.

Is it the tender star of love?
The star of love and dreams?
O, no! from that blue tent above,
A hero's armor gleams.

And earnest thoughts within me rise,
When I behold afar,
Suspended in the evening skies,
The shield of that red star.

O star of strength! I see thee stand
And smile upon my pain;
Thou beckonest with thy mailed hand,
And I am strong again.

Within my breast there is no light,
But the cold light of stars;
I give the first watch of the night
To the red planet Mars.

The star of the unconquered will,
He rises in my breast,
Serene, and resolute, and still

And thou, too, whosoe'er thou art,
That readest this brief psalm,
As one by one thy hopes depart,
Be resolute and calm.

O, fear not in a world like this,
And thou shalt know ere long,
Know how sublime a thing it is
To suffer and be strong.

FOOTSTEPS OF ANGELS.

WHEN the hours of Day are numbered,
And the voices of the Night
Wake the better soul, that slumbered,
To a holy, calm delight ;

Ere the evening lamps are lighted,
And, like phantoms grim and tall,
Shadows from the fitful fire-light
Dance upon the parlour-wall ;

Then the forms of the departed
Enter at the open door ;
The beloved, the true-hearted,
Come to visit me once more ;

He, the young and strong, who cherished
Noble longings for the strife,
By the road-side fell and perished,
Weary with the march of life !

They, the holy ones and weakly,
Who the cross of suffering bore,
Folded their pale hands so meekly,
Spake with us on earth no more !

And with them the Being Beauteous,
Who unto my youth was given,
More than all things else to love me,
And is now a saint in heaven.

With a slow and noiseless footstep
Comes that messenger divine,
Takes the vacant chair beside me,
Lays her gentle hand in mine.

And she sits and gazes at me
With those deep and tender eyes,
Like the stars, so still and saint-like,

Uttered not, yet comprehended,
Is the spirit's voiceless prayer,
Soft rebukes, in blessings ended,
Breathing from her lips of air.

O, though oft depressed and lonely,
All my fears are laid aside,
If I but remember only
Such as these have lived and died !

FLOWERS.

SPAKE full well, in language quaint and olden,
One who dwelleth by the castled Rhine,
When he called the flowers, so blue and golden,
Stars, that in earth's firmament do shine.

Stars they are, wherein we read our history,
As astrologers and seers of eld ;
Yet not wrapped about with awful mystery,
Like the burning stars, which they beheld.

Wondrous truths, and manifold as wondrous,
God hath written in those stars above ;
But not less in the bright flowerets under us
Stands the revelation of his love.

Bright and glorious is that revelation,
Written all over this great world of ours ;
Making evident our own creation,
In these stars of earth,—these golden flowers.

And the Poet, faithful and far-seeing,
Sees, alike in stars and flowers, a part
Of the selfsame, universal being,
Which is throbbing in his brain and heart.

Gorgeous flowerets in the sunlight shining,
Blossoms flaunting in the eye of day,
Tremulous leaves, with soft and silver lining,
Buds that open only to decay ;

Brilliant hopes, all woven in gorgeous tissues,
Flaunting gayly in the golden light ;
Large desires, with most uncertain issues,
Tender wishes, blossoming at night !

These in flowers and men are more than seem-
ing ;

Which the Poet, in no idle dreaming,
Seeth in himself and in the flowers.

Everywhere about us are they glowing,
Some like stars, to tell us Spring is born ;
Others, their blue eyes with tears o'erflowing,
Stand like Ruth amid the golden corn ;

Not alone in Spring's armorial bearing,
And in Summer's green-embazoned field,
But in arms of brave old Autumn's wearing,
In the centre of his brazen shield ;

Not alone in meadows and green alleys,
On the mountain-top, and by the brink
Of sequestered pools in woodland valleys,
Where the slaves of Nature stoop to drink ;

Not alone in her vast dome of glory,
Not on graves of bird and beast alone,
But in old cathedrals, high and hoary,
On the tombs of heroes, carved in stone ;

In the cottage of the rudest peasant,
In ancestral homes, whose crumbling towers,
Speaking of the Past unto the Present,
Tell us of the ancient Games of Flowers ;

In all places, then, and in all seasons,
Flowers expand their light and soul-like
wings,
Teaching us, by most persuasive reasons,
How akin they are to human things.

And with childlike, credulous affection
We behold their tender buds expand ;
Emblems of our own great resurrection,
Emblems of the bright and better land.



THE BELEAGUERED CITY.



I HAVE read, in some old marvellous tale,
Some legend strange and vague,
That a midnight host of spectres pale
Beleaguered the walls of Prague.

Beside the Moldau's rushing stream,
With the wan moon overhead,

There stood, as in an awful dream,
The army of the dead.

White as a sea-fog, landward bound,
The spectral camp was seen,
And, with a sorrowful, deep sound,
The river flowed between.

No other voice nor sound was there,
No drum, nor sentry's pace ;
The mist-like banners clasped the air,
As clouds with clouds embrace.

But, when the old cathedral bell
Proclaimed the morning prayer,
The white pavilions rose and fell
On the alarmed air.

Down the broad valley fast and far
The troubled army fled ;
Up rose the glorious morning star,
The ghastly host was dead.

I have read, in the marvellous heart of man,
That strange and mystic scroll,
That an army of phantoms vast and wan
Beleaguer the human soul.

Encamped beside Life's rushing stream,
In Fancy's misty light,
Gigantic shapes and shadows gleam
Portentous through the night.

Upon its midnight battle-ground
The spectral camp is seen,
And, with a sorrowful, deep sound,
Flows the River of Life between.

No other voice nor sound is there,
In the army of the grave ;
No other challenge breaks the air,
But the rushing of Life's wave.

And, when the solemn and deep church-bell
Entreats the soul to pray,
The midnight phantoms feel the spell,
The shadows sweep away.

Down the broad Vale of Tears afar
The spectral camp is fled ;
Faith shineth as a morning star,
Our ghastly fears are dead.

MIDNIGHT MASS FOR THE DYING YEAR.

—

Yes, the Year is growing old,
And his eye is pale and bleared !
Death, with frosty hand and cold,
Plucks the old man by the beard,
Sorely, — sorely !

The leaves are falling, falling,
Solemnly and slow ;
Caw ! caw ! the rooks are calling, —
It is a sound of woe,
A sound of woe !

Through woods and mountain passes
The winds, like anthems, roll ;
They are chanting solemn masses,
Singing ; “ Pray for this poor soul,
Pray, — pray ! ”

And the hooded clouds, like friars,
Tell their beads in drops of rain,
And patter their doleful prayers ; —
But their prayers are all in vain,
All in vain !

There he stands in the foul weather,
The foolish, fond Old Year,
Crowned with wild flowers and with heath-
er,
Like weak, despised Lear,
A king, — a king !

Then comes the summer-like day,
Bids the old man rejoice !

His joy ! his last ! O, the old man gray,
Loveth that ever-soft voice,
Gentle and low.

To the crimson woods he saith, —
To the voice gentle and low
Of the soft air, like a daughter's breath, —
“ Pray do not mock me so !
Do not laugh at me ! ”

And now the sweet day is dead ;
Cold in his arms it lies ;
No stain from its breath is spread
Over the glassy skies,
No mist or stain !

Then, too, the Old Year dieth,
And the forests utter a moan,
Like the voice of one who crieth
In the wilderness alone,
“ Vex not his ghost ! ”

Then comes, with an awful roar,
Gathering and sounding on,
The storm-wind from Labrador,
The wind Euroclydon,
The storm-wind !

How ! how ! and from the forest
Sweep the red leaves away !
Would the sins that thou abhorrest,
O Soul, could thus decay,
And be swept away !

For there shall come a mightier blast,
There shall be a darker day ;
And the stars, from heaven down-cast,
Like red leaves be swept away !
Kyrie, eleyson !
Christe, eleyson !

~~~~~

## EARLIER POEMS.

These poems were written for the most part during my college life, and all of them before the age of nineteen. Some have found their way into schools, and seem to be successful. Others lead a vagabond and precarious existence in the corners of newspapers; or have changed their names and run away to seek their fortunes beyond the sea. I say, with the Bishop of Avranches, on a similar occasion; "I cannot be displeased to see these children of mine, which I have neglected, and almost exposed, brought from their wanderings in lanes and alleys, and safely lodged, in order to go forth into the world together in a more decorous garb."]

### AN APRIL DAY.

WHEN the warm sun, that brings  
Seedtime and harvest, has returned again,  
Tis sweet to visit the still wood, where springs  
The first flower of the plain.

I love the season well,  
When forest glades are teeming with bright  
forms,  
Nor dark and many-folded clouds foretell  
The coming-on of storms.

From the earth's loosened mould  
The sapling draws its sustenance, and thrives;  
Though stricken to the heart with winter's cold,  
The drooping tree revives.

The softly-warbled song  
Comes from the pleasant woods, and colored  
wings  
Glance quick in the bright sun, that moves  
along  
The forest openings.

When the bright sunset fills  
The silver woods with light, the green slope  
throws  
shadows in the hollows of the hills.

And, when the eve is born,  
In the blue lake the sky, o'er-reaching far,  
Is hollowed out, and the moon dips her horn,  
And twinkles many a star.

Inverted in the tide  
Stand the gray rocks, and trembling shadows  
throw,  
And the fair trees look over, side by side,  
And see themselves below.

Sweet April! — many a thought  
Is wedded unto thee, as hearts are wed;  
Nor shall they fail, till, to its autumn brought,  
Life's golden fruit is shed.

### AUTUMN.

WITH what a glory comes and goes the year!  
The buds of spring, those beautiful harbingers  
Of sunny skies and cloudless times, enjoy  
Life's newness, and earth's garniture spread  
out;  
And when the silver habit of the clouds  
Comes down upon the autumn sun, and with  
A sober gladness the old year takes up  
His bright inheritance of golden fruits,  
A pomp and pageant fill the splendid scene.

There is a beautiful spirit breathing now  
Its mellow richness on the clustered trees,  
And, from a beaker full of richest dyes,  
Pouring new glory on the autumn woods,  
And dipping in warm light the pillared clouds.  
Morn on the mountain, like a summer bird,  
Lifts up her purple wing, and in the vales  
The gentle wind, a sweet and passionate wooer,  
Kisses the blushing leaf, and stirs up life  
Within the solemn woods of ash deep-crim-  
soned,  
And silver beech, and maple yellow-leaved,  
Where autumn, like a faint old man, sits down  
By the wayside a-weary. Through the trees

That on wild-cherry and red-cedar feeds,  
A winter bird, comes with its plaintive whistle,  
And pecks by the witch-hazel, whilst aloud  
From cottage roofs the warbling bluebird sings,  
And merrily, with oft-repeated stroke,  
Sounds from the threshing-floor the busy flail.

O, what a glory doth this world put on  
For him who, with a fervent heart, goes forth  
Under the bright and glorious sky, and looks  
On duties well performed, and days well spent !  
For him the wind, ay, and the yellow leaves,  
Shall have a voice, and give him eloquent  
teachings.

He shall so hear the solemn hymn, that Death  
Has lifted up for all, that he shall go  
To his long resting-place without a tear.

### WOODS IN WINTER.

WHEN winter winds are piercing chill,  
And through the hawthorn blows the gale,  
With solemn feet I tread the hill,  
That overbrows the lonely vale.

O'er the bare upland, and away  
Through the long reach of desert woods,  
The embracing sunbeams chastely play,  
And gladden these deep solitudes.

Where, twisted round the barren oak,  
The summer vine in beauty clung,  
And summer winds the stillness broke,  
The crystal icicle is hung.

Where, from their frozen urns, mute springs  
Pour out the river's gradual tide,  
Shrilly the skater's iron rings,  
And voices fill the woodland side.

Alas ! how changed from the fair scene,  
When birds sang out their mellow lay,  
And winds were soft, and woods were green,  
And the song ceased not with the day.

But still wild music is abroad,  
Pale, desert woods ! within your crowd ;  
ad gathering winds, in hoarse accord,

Chill airs and wintry winds ! my ear  
Has grown familiar with your song ;  
I hear it in the opening year, —  
I listen, and it cheers me long.

### HYMN OF THE MORAVIAN NUNS OF BETHLEHEM,

AT THE CONSECRATION OF PULASKI'S BANNER.

WHEN the dying flame of day  
Through the chancel shot its ray,  
Far the glimmering tapers shed  
Faint light on the cowed head ;  
And the censor burning swung,  
Where, before the altar, hung  
The blood-red banner, that with prayer  
Had been consecrated there.

And the nun's sweet hymn was heard the while,  
Sung low in the dim, mysterious aisle.

"Take thy banner ! May it wave  
Proudly o'er the good and brave ;  
When the battle's distant wail  
Breaks the sabbath of our vale,  
When the clarion's music thrills  
To the hearts of these lone hills,  
When the spear in conflict shakes,  
And the strong lance shivering breaks.

"Take thy banner ! and, beneath  
The battle-cloud's encircling wreath,  
Guard it ! — till our homes are free !  
Guard it ! — God will prosper thee !  
In the dark and trying hour,  
In the breaking forth of power,  
In the rush of steeds and men,  
His right hand will shield thee then.

"Take thy banner ! But, when night  
Closes round the ghastly fight,  
If the vanquished warrior bow,  
Spare him ! — By our holy vow,  
By our prayers and many tears,  
By the mercy that endears,  
Spare him ! — he our love hath shared !  
Spare him ! — as thou wouldst be spared !

"Take thy banner ! — and if e'er  
Thou shouldst press the soldier's bier,  
And the muffled drum should beat

Then this crimson flag shall be  
 Martial cloak and shroud for thee."

The warrior took that banner proud,  
 And it was his martial cloak and shroud !

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SUNRISE ON THE HILLS.

---

I stood upon the hills, when heaven's wide  
 arch  
 Was glorious with the sun's returning march,  
 And woods were brightened, and soft gales  
 Went forth to kiss the sun-clad vales.  
 The clouds were far beneath me ; — bathed in  
 light,  
 They gathered midway round the wooded  
 height,  
 And, in their fading glory, shone  
 Like hosts in battle overthrown,  
 As many a pinnacle, with shifting glance,  
 Through the gray mist thrust up its shattered  
 lance,  
 And rocking on the cliff was left  
 The dark pine blasted, bare, and cleft.  
 The veil of cloud was lifted, and below  
 Glowed the rich valley, and the river's flow  
 Was darkened by the forest's shade,  
 Or glistened in the white cascade ;  
 Where upward, in the mellow blush of day,  
 The noisy bittern wheeled his spiral way.

I heard the distant waters dash,  
 I saw the current whirl and flash, —  
 And richly, by the blue lake's silver beach,  
 The woods were bending with a silent reach.  
 Then o'er the vale, with gentle swell,  
 The music of the village bell  
 Came sweetly to the echo-giving hills ;  
 And the wild horn, whose voice the woodland  
 fills,  
 Was ringing to the merry shout,  
 That faint and far the glen sent out,  
 Where, answering to the sudden shot, thin  
 smoke,  
 Through thick-leaved branches, from the din-  
 gle broke.

If thou art worn and hard beset

If thou wouldst read a lesson, that will keep  
 Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from  
 sleep,  
 Go to the woods and hills ! — No tears  
 Dim the sweet look that Nature wears.

---

THE SPIRIT OF POETRY.

---

THERE is a quiet spirit in these woods,  
 That dwells where'er the gentle south wind  
 blows ;  
 Where, underneath the white-thorn, in the  
 glade,  
 The wild flowers bloom, or, kissing the soft  
 air,  
 The leaves above their sunny palms outspread.  
 With what a tender and impassioned voice  
 It fills the nice and delicate ear of thought,  
 When the fast-ushering star of morning comes  
 O'er-riding the gray hills with golden scarf ;  
 Or when the cowed and dusky-sandalled Eve,  
 In mourning weeds, from out the western gate,  
 Departs with silent pace ! That spirit moves  
 In the green valley, where the silver brook,  
 From its full laver, pours the white cascade ;  
 And, babbling low amid the tangled woods,  
 Slips down through moss-grown stones with  
 endless laughter.  
 And frequent, on the everlasting hills,  
 Its feet go forth, when it doth wrap itself  
 In all the dark embroidery of the storm,  
 And shouts the stern, strong wind. And here,  
 amid  
 The silent majesty of these deep woods,  
 Its presence shall uplift thy thoughts from  
 earth,  
 As to the sunshine and the pure, bright air  
 Their tops the green trees lift. Hence gifted  
 birds  
 Have ever loved the calm and quiet shades.  
 For them there was an eloquent voice in all  
 The sylvan pomp of woods, the golden sun,  
 The flowers, the leaves, the river on its way,  
 Blue skies, and silver clouds, and gentle  
 winds, —  
 The swelling upland, where the sidelong sun  
 Aslant the wooded slope, at evening, goes, —  
 Groves, through whose broken roof the sky

Mountain, and shattered cliff, and sunny vale,  
The distant lake, fountains, — and mighty  
trees,  
In many a lazy syllable, repeating  
Their old poetic legends to the wind.

And this is the sweet spirit, that doth fill  
The world; and, in these wayward days of  
youth,

My busy fancy oft embodies it,  
As a bright image of the light and beauty  
That dwell in nature, — of the heavenly forms  
We worship in our dreams, and the soft hues  
That stain the wild bird's wing, and flush the  
clouds

When the sun sets. Within her eye  
The heaven of April, with its changing light,  
And when it wears the blue of May, is hung,  
And on her lip the rich, red rose. Her hair  
Is like the summer tresses of the trees,  
When twilight makes them brown, and on her  
cheek

Blushes the richness of an autumn sky,  
With ever-shifting beauty. Then her breath,  
It is so like the gentle air of Spring,  
As, from the morning's dewy flowers, it comes  
Full of their fragrance, that it is a joy  
To have it round us, — and her silver voice  
Is the rich music of a summer bird,  
Heard in the still night, with its passionate  
cadence.

### BURIAL OF THE MINNISINK.

On sunny slope and beechen swell,  
The shadowed light of evening fell;  
And, where the maple's leaf was brown,  
With soft and silent lapse came down  
The glory, that the wood receives,  
At sunset, in its brazen leaves.

Far upward in the mellow light  
Rose the blue hills. One cloud of white,

Around a far uplifted cone,  
In the warm blush of evening shone;  
An image of the silver lakes,  
By which the Indian's soul awakes.

But soon a funeral hymn was heard  
Where the soft breath of evening stirred  
The tall, gray forest; and a band  
Of stern in heart, and strong in hand,  
Came winding down beside the wave,  
To lay the red chief in his grave.

They sang, that by his native bowers  
He stood, in the last moon of flowers,  
And thirty snows had not yet shed  
Their glory on the warrior's head;  
But, as the summer fruit decays,  
So died he in those naked days.

A dark cloak of the roebuck's skin  
Covered the warrior, and within  
Its heavy folds the weapons, made  
For the hard toils of war, were laid;  
The cuirass, woven of plaited reeds,  
And the broad belt of shells and beads.

Before, a dark-haired virgin train  
Chanted the death dirge of the slain;  
Behind, the long procession came  
Of hoary men and chiefs of fame,  
With heavy hearts, and eyes of grief,  
Leading the war-horse of their chief.

Stripped of his proud and martial dress,  
Uncurbed, unreined, and riderless,  
With darting eye, and nostril spread,  
And heavy and impatient tread,  
He came; and oft that eye so proud  
Asked for his rider in the crowd.

They buried the dark chief; they freed  
Beside the grave his battle steed;  
And swift an arrow cleaved its way  
To his stern heart! One piercing neigh  
Arose, — and, on the dead man's plain,  
The rider grasps his steed again.



# TRANSLATIONS.

[Don Jorge Manrique, the author of the following poem, flourished in the last half of the fifteenth century. He followed the profession of arms, and died on the field of battle. Mariana, in his History of Spain, makes honorable mention of him, as being present at the siege of Uclés; and speaks of him as "a youth of estimable qualities, who in this war gave brilliant proofs of his valor. He died young; and was thus cut off from long exercising his great virtues, and exhibiting to the world the light of his genius, which was already known to fame." He was mortally wounded in a skirmish near Cañavete, in the year 1479.

The name of Rodrigo Manrique, the father of the poet, Conde de Paredes and Maestre de Santiago, is well known in Spanish history and song. He died in 1476; according to Mariana, in the town of Uclés; but, according to the poem of his son, in Ocaña. It was his death that called forth the poem upon which rests the literary reputation of the younger Manrique. In the language of his historian, "Don Jorge Manrique, in an elegant Ode, full of poetic beauties, rich embellishments of genius, and high moral reflections, mourned the death of his father as with a funeral hymn." This praise is not exaggerated. The poem is a model in its kind. Its conception is solemn and beautiful; and, in accordance with it, the style moves on,—calm, dignified, and majestic.]

## COPLAS DE MANRIQUE.

FROM THE SPANISH.

O, LET the soul her slumbers break,  
Let thought be quickened, and awake;  
Awake to see  
How soon this life is past and gone,  
And death comes softly stealing on,  
How silently!

Swiftly our pleasures glide away,  
Our hearts recall the distant day  
With many sighs;  
The moments that are speeding fast  
We heed not, but the past,—the past,—

Onward its course the present keeps,  
Onward the constant current sweeps,  
Till life is done;  
And, did we judge of time aright,  
The past and future in their flight  
Would be as one.

Let no one fondly dream again,  
That Hope and all her shadowy train  
Will not decay;  
Fleeting as were the dreams of old,  
Remembered as a tale that's told,  
They pass away.

Our lives are rivers, gliding free  
To that unfathomed, boundless sea,  
The silent grave!  
Thither all earthly pomp and boast  
Roll, to be swallowed up and lost  
In one dark wave.

Thither the mighty torrents stray,  
Thither the brook pursues its way,  
And tinkling rill.  
There all are equal. Side by side  
The poor man and the son of pride  
Lie calm and still.

I will not here invoke the throng  
Of orators and sons of song,  
The deathless few;  
Fiction entices and deceives,  
And, sprinkled o'er her fragrant leaves,  
Lies poisonous dew.

To One alone my thoughts arise,  
The Eternal Truth,—the Good and  
Wise,—  
To Him I cry,  
Who shared on earth our common lot,  
But the world comprehended not  
His deity.

This world is but the rugged road  
Which leads us to the bright abode

So let us choose that narrow way,  
Which leads no traveller's foot astray  
From realms of love.

Our cradle is the starting-place,  
In life we run the onward race,  
And reach the goal;  
When, in the mansions of the blest,  
Death leaves to its eternal rest  
The weary soul.

Did we but use it as we ought,  
This world would school each wandering  
thought  
To its high state.  
Faith wings the soul beyond the sky,  
Up to that better world on high,  
For which we wait.

Yes, — the glad messenger of love,  
To guide us to our home above,  
The Saviour came;  
Born amid mortal cares and fears,  
He suffered in this vale of tears  
A death of shame.

Behold of what delusive worth  
The bubbles we pursue on earth,  
The shapes we chase,  
Amid a world of treachery!  
They vanish ere death shuts the eye,  
And leave no trace.

Time steals them from us, — chances strange,  
Disastrous accidents, and change,  
That come to all;  
Even in the most exalted state,  
Relentless sweeps the stroke of fate;  
The strongest fall.

Tell me, — the charms that lovers seek  
In the clear eye and blushing cheek,  
The hues that play  
O'er rosy lip and brow of snow,  
When hoary age approaches slow,  
Ah, where are they?

The cunning skill, the curious arts,  
The glorious strength that youth imparts  
In life's first stage;  
These shall become a heavy weight,  
When Time swings wide his outward gate

The noble blood of Gothic name,  
Heroes emblazoned high to fame,  
In long array;  
How, in the onward course of time,  
The landmarks of that race sublime  
Were swept away!

Some, the degraded slaves of lust,  
Prostrate and trampled in the dust,  
Shall rise no more;  
Others, by guilt and crime, maintain  
The scutcheon, that, without a stain,  
Their fathers bore.

Wealth and the high estate of pride,  
With what untimely speed they glide,  
How soon depart!  
Bid not the shadowy phantoms stay,  
The vassals of a mistress they,  
Of fickle heart.

These gifts in Fortune's hands are  
found;  
Her swift-revolving wheel turns round,  
And they are gone!  
No rest the inconstant goddess knows,  
But changing, and without repose,  
Still hurries on.

Even could the hand of avarice save  
Its gilded bawbles, till the grave  
Reclaimed its prey,  
Let none on such poor hopes rely;  
Life, like an empty dream, flits by,  
And where are they?

Earthly desires and sensual lust  
Are passions springing from the dust, —  
They fade and die;  
But, in the life beyond the tomb,  
They seal the immortal spirit's doom  
Eternally!

The pleasures and delights, which mask  
In treacherous smiles life's serious task,  
What are they, all,  
But the fleet coursers of the chase,  
And death an ambush in the race,  
Wherein we fall!

No foe, no dangerous pass, we heed,  
Brook no delay, — but onward speed,

And, when the fatal snare is near,  
We strive to check our mad career,  
But strive in vain.

Could we new charms to age impart,  
And fashion with a cunning art  
The human face,  
As we can clothe the soul with light,  
And make the glorious spirit bright  
With heavenly grace, —

How busily each passing hour  
Should we exert that magic power!  
What ardor show  
To deck the sensual slave of sin,  
Yet leave the freeborn soul within  
In weeds of woe!

Monarchs, the powerful and the strong,  
Famous in history and in song  
Of olden time,  
Saw, by the stern decrees of fate,  
Their kingdoms lost, and desolate  
Their race sublime.

Who is the champion? who the strong?  
Pontiff and priest, and sceptred throng?  
On these shall fall  
As heavily the hand of Death,  
As when it stays the shepherd's breath  
Beside his stall.

I speak not of the Trojan name,  
Neither its glory nor its shame  
Has met our eyes;  
Nor of Rome's great and glorious dead,  
Though we have heard so oft, and read,  
Their histories.

Little avails it now to know  
Of ages passed so long ago,  
Nor how they rolled;  
Our theme shall be of yesterday,  
Which to oblivion sweeps away,  
Like days of old.

Where is the king, Don Juan? Where  
Each royal prince and noble heir  
Of Aragon?  
Where are the courtly gallantries?  
The deeds of love and high emprise,  
In battle done?

Tourney and joust, that charmed the eye,  
And scarf, and gorgeous panoply,  
And nodding plume, —  
What were they but a pageant scene?  
What but the garlands, gay and green,  
That deck the tomb?

Where are the high-born dames, and where  
Their gay attire, and jewelled hair,  
And odors sweet?  
Where are the gentle knights, that came  
To kneel, and breathe love's ardent flame,  
Low at their feet?

Where is the song of Troubadour?  
Where are the lute and gay tambour  
They loved of yore?  
Where is the mazy dance of old,  
The flowing robes, inwrought with gold,  
The dancers wore?

And he who next the sceptre swayed  
Henry, whose royal court displayed  
Such power and pride;  
O, in what winning smiles arrayed,  
The world its various pleasures laid  
His throne beside!

But, O, how false and full of guile  
That world, which wore so soft a smile  
But to betray!  
She, that had been his friend before,  
Now from the fated monarch tore  
Her charms away.

The countless gifts, — the stately walls,  
The royal palaces, and halls  
All filled with gold;  
Plate with armorial bearings wrought,  
Chambers with ample treasures fraught  
Of wealth untold;

The noble steeds, and harness bright,  
And gallant lord, and stalwart knight,  
In rich array, —  
Where shall we seek them now? Alas!  
Like the bright dewdrops on the grass,  
They passed away.

His brother, too, whose factious zeal  
Usurped the sceptre of Castile,  
Unskilled to reign;

What a gay, brilliant court had he,  
When all the flower of chivalry  
Was in his train !

But he was mortal ; and the breath  
That flamed from the hot forge of Death  
Blasted his years ;  
Judgment of God ! that flame by thee,  
When raging fierce and fearfully,  
Was quenched in tears !

Spain's haughty Constable, — the true  
And gallant Master, — whom we knew  
Most loved of all, —  
Breathe not a whisper of his pride ;  
He on the gloomy scaffold died, —  
Ignoble fall !

The countless treasures of his care,  
His hamlets green and cities fair,  
His mighty power, —  
What were they all but grief and shame,  
Tears and a broken heart, when came  
The parting hour !

His other brothers, proud and high,  
Masters, who, in prosperity,  
Might rival kings ;  
Who made the bravest and the best  
The bondsmen of their high behest,  
Their underlings ;

What was their prosperous estate,  
When high exalted and elate  
With power and pride ?  
What, but a transient gleam of light,  
A flame, which, glaring at its height,  
Grew dim and died ?

So many a duke of royal name,  
Marquis and count of spotless fame,  
And baron brave,  
That might the sword of empire wield,  
All these, O Death, hast thou concealed  
In the dark grave !

Their deeds of mercy and of arms,  
In peaceful days, or war's alarms,  
When thou dost show,  
O Death, thy stern and angry face,  
One stroke of thy all-powerful mace  
Can overthrow.

Unnumbered hosts, that threaten nigh,  
Pennon and standard flaunting high,  
And flag displayed ;  
High battlements intrenched around,  
Bastion, and moated wall, and mound,  
And palisade,

And covered trench, secure and deep, —  
All these cannot one victim keep,  
O Death, from thee,  
When thou dost battle in thy wrath,  
And thy strong shafts pursue their path  
Unerringly.

O World ! so few the years we live,  
Would that the life which thou dost give  
Were life indeed !  
Alas ! thy sorrows fall so fast,  
Our happiest hour is when at last  
The soul is freed.

Our days are covered o'er with grief,  
And sorrows neither few nor brief  
Veil all in gloom ;  
Left desolate of real good,  
Within this cheerless solitude  
No pleasures bloom.

Thy pilgrimage begins in tears,  
And ends in bitter doubts and fears,  
Or dark despair ;  
Midway so many toils appear,  
That he who lingers longest here  
Knows most of care.

Thy goods are bought with many a groan,  
By the hot sweat of toil alone,  
And weary hearts ;  
Fleet-footed is the approach of woe,  
But with a lingering step and slow  
Its form departs.

And he, the good man's shield and shade,  
To whom all hearts their homage paid,  
As Virtue's son, —  
Roderic Manrique, — he whose name  
Is written on the scroll of Fame,  
Spain's champion ;

His signal deeds and prowess high  
Demand no pompous eulogy, —  
Ye saw his deeds !

Why should their praise in verse be sung?  
The name that dwells on every tongue  
No minstrel needs.

To friends a friend ; — how kind to all  
The vassals of this ancient hall  
And feudal fief!

To foes how stern a foe was he!  
And to the valiant and the free  
How brave a chief!

What prudence with the old and wise!  
What grace in youthful gayeties!  
In all how sage!  
Benignant to the serf and slave,  
He showed the base and falsely brave  
A lion's rage.

His was Octavian's prosperous star,  
The rush of Cæsar's conquering car  
At battle's call;  
His, Scipio's virtue; his, the skill  
And the indomitable will  
Of Hannibal.

His was a Trajan's goodness, — his  
A Titus' noble charities  
And righteous laws;  
The arm of Hector, and the might  
Of Tully, to maintain the right  
In truth's just cause;

The clemency of Antonine,  
Aurelius' countenance divine,  
Firm, gentle, still;  
The eloquence of Adrian,  
And Theodosius' love to man,  
And generous will;

In tented field and bloody fray,  
An Alexander's vigorous sway  
And stern command;  
The faith of Constantine; ay, more,  
The fervent love Camillus bore  
His native land.

He left no well-filled treasury,  
He heaped no pile of riches high,  
Nor massive plate;  
He fought the Moors, — and, in their fall,  
City and tower and castled wall  
Were his estate.

Upon the hard-fought battle-ground,  
Brave steeds and gallant riders found  
A common grave;  
And there the warrior's hand did gain  
The rents, and the long vassal train,  
That conquest gave.

And if, of old, his halls displayed  
The honored and exalted grade  
His worth had gained,  
So, in the dark, disastrous hour,  
Brothers and bondsmen of his power  
His hand sustained.

After high deeds, not left untold,  
In the stern warfare which of old  
'T was his to share,  
Such noble leagues he made, that more  
And fairer regions than before  
His guerdon were.

These are the records, half effaced,  
Which, with the hand of youth, he traced  
On history's page;  
But with fresh victories he drew  
Each fading character anew  
In his old age.

By his unrivalled skill, by great  
And veteran service to the state,  
By worth adored,  
He stood, in his high dignity,  
The proudest knight of chivalry,  
Knight of the Sword.

He found his cities and domains  
Beneath a tyrant's galling chains  
And cruel power;  
But, by fierce battle and blockade,  
Soon his own banner was displayed  
From every tower.

By the tried valor of his hand,  
His monarch and his native land  
Were nobly served; —  
Let Portugal repeat the story,  
And proud Castile, who shared the glory  
His arms deserved.

And when so oft, for weal or woe,  
His life upon the fatal throw  
Had been cast down;

When he had served, with patriot zeal,  
Beneath the banner of Castile,  
His sovereign's crown ;

And done such deeds of valor strong,  
That neither history nor song  
Can count them all ;  
Then, on Ocaña's castled rock,  
Death at his portal came to knock,  
With sudden call, —

Saying, " Good Cavalier, prepare  
To leave this world of toil and care  
With joyful mien ;  
Let thy strong heart of steel this day  
Put on its armor for the fray, —  
The closing scene.

" Since thou hast been, in battle-strife,  
So prodigal of health and life,  
For earthly fame,  
Let virtue nerve thy heart again ;  
Loud on the last stern battle-plain  
They call thy name.

" Think not the struggle that draws near  
Too terrible for man, — nor fear  
To meet the foe ;  
Nor let thy noble spirit grieve,  
Its life of glorious fame to leave  
On earth below.

" A life of honor and of worth  
Has no eternity on earth, —  
'T is but a name ;  
And yet its glory far exceeds  
That base and sensual life, which leads  
To want and shame.

" The eternal life, beyond the sky,  
Wealth cannot purchase, nor the high  
And proud estate ;  
The soul in dalliance laid, — the spirit  
Corrupt with sin, — shall not inherit  
A joy so great.

" But the good monk, in cloistered cell,  
Shall gain it by his book and bell,  
His prayers and tears ;  
And the brave knight, whose arm en-  
dures  
Fierce battle, and against the Moors

" And thou, brave knight, whose hand has  
poured  
The life-blood of the pagan horde  
O'er all the land,  
In heaven shalt thou receive, at length,  
The guerdon of thine earthly strength  
And dauntless hand.

" Cheered onward by this promise sure,  
Strong in the faith entire and pure  
Thou dost profess,  
Depart, — thy hope is certainty, —  
The third — the better life on high  
Shalt thou possess."

" O Death, no more, no more delay ;  
My spirit longs to flee away,  
And be at rest ;  
The will of Heaven my will shall be, —  
I bow to the divine decree,  
To God's behest.

" My soul is ready to depart,  
No thought rebels, the obedient heart  
Breathes forth no sigh ;  
The wish on earth to linger still  
Were vain, when 't is God's sovereign will  
That we shall die.

" O thou, that for our sins didst take  
A human form, and humbly make  
Thy home on earth ;  
Thou, that to thy divinity  
A human nature didst ally  
By mortal birth, —

" And in that form didst suffer here  
Torment, and agony, and fear,  
So patiently ;  
By thy redeeming grace alone,  
And not for merits of my own,  
O, pardon me !"

As thus the dying warrior prayed,  
Without one gathering mist or shade  
Upon his mind ;  
Encircled by his family,  
Watched by affection's gentle eye  
So soft and kind, —

His soul to Him who gave it rose.  
God lead it to its long repose,

And, though the warrior's sun has set,  
Its light shall linger round us yet,  
Bright, radiant, blest.\*

# THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

FROM THE SPANISH OF LOPE DE VEGA.

SHEPHERD! that with thine amorous, sylvan  
song  
Hast broken the slumber which encompassed  
me, —  
That mad'st thy crook from the accursed tree,  
On which thy powerful arms were stretched so  
long!

\* This poem of Manrique is a great favorite in Spain. No less than four poetic Glosses, or running commentaries, upon it have been published, no one of which, however, possesses great poetic merit. That of the Carthusian monk, Rodrigo de Valdepeñas, is the best. It is known as the *Glosa del Cartujo*. There is also a prose Commentary by Luis de Aranda.

The following stanzas of the poem were found in the author's pocket, after his death on the field of battle.

"O World! so few the years we live,  
Would that the life which thou dost give  
Were life indeed!  
Alas! thy sorrows fall so fast,  
Our happiest hour is when at last  
The soul is freed.

"Our days are covered o'er with grief,  
And sorrows neither few nor brief  
Veil all in gloom;  
Left desolate of real good,  
Within this cheerless solitude  
No pleasures bloom.

"Thy pilgrimage begins in tears,  
And ends in bitter doubts and fears,  
Or dark despair;  
Midway so many toils appear,  
That he who lingers longest here  
Knows most of care.

"Thy goods are bought with many a groan,  
By the hot sweat of toil alone,  
And weary hearts;  
Fleet-footed is the approach of woe,  
But with a lingering step and slow

Lead me to mercy's ever-flowing fountains;  
For thou my shepherd, guard, and guide shalt  
be;  
I will obey thy voice, and wait to see  
Thy feet all beautiful upon the mountains.  
Hear, Shepherd! — thou who for thy flock art  
dying,  
O, wash away these scarlet sins, for thou  
Rejoicest at the contrite sinner's vow.  
O, wait! — to thee my weary soul is crying, —  
Wait for me! — Yet why ask it, when I see,  
With feet nailed to the cross, thou 'rt waiting  
still for me!

# TO-MORROW.

FROM THE SPANISH OF LOPE DE VEGA.

LORD, what am I, that, with unceasing care,  
Thou didst seek after me, — that thou didst  
wait,  
Wet with unhealthy dews, before my gate,  
And pass the gloomy nights of winter there?  
O, strange delusion, that I did not greet  
Thy blest approach! and, O, to Heaven how  
lost,  
If my ingratitude's unkindly frost  
Has chilled the bleeding wounds upon thy feet.  
How oft my guardian angel gently cried,  
"Soul, from thy casement look, and thou shalt  
see  
How he persists to knock and wait for thee!"  
And, O, how often to that voice of sorrow,  
"To-morrow we will open," I replied,  
And when the morrow came I answered still,  
"To-morrow."

# THE NATIVE LAND.

FROM THE SPANISH OF FRANCISCO DE ALDANA.

CLEAR fount of light! my native land on high,  
Bright with a glory that shall never fade!  
Mansion of truth! without a veil or shade,  
Thy holy quiet meets the spirit's eye.  
There dwells the soul in its ethereal essence,  
Gasping no longer for life's feeble breath;  
But, sentinelled in heaven, its glorious presence

Beloved country ! banished from thy shore,  
A stranger in this prison-house of clay,  
The exiled spirit weeps and sighs for thee !  
Heavenward the bright perfections I adore  
Direct, and the sure promise cheers the way,  
That, whither love aspires, there shall my  
dwelling be.

### THE IMAGE OF GOD.

FROM THE SPANISH OF FRANCISCO DE ALDANA.

O LORD ! that seest, from yon starry height,  
Centred in one the future and the past,  
Fashioned in thine own image, see how fast  
The world obscures in me what once was  
bright !  
Eternal Sun ! the warmth which thou hast  
given,  
To cheer life's flowery April, fast decays ;  
Yet, in the hoary winter of my days,  
For ever green shall be my trust in Heaven.  
Celestial King ! O, let thy presence pass  
Before my spirit, and an image fair  
Shall meet that look of mercy from on high,  
As the reflected image in a glass  
Doth meet the look of him who seeks it there,  
And owes its being to the gazer's eye.

### THE BROOK.

FROM THE SPANISH.

LAUGH of the mountain ! — lyre of bird and  
tree !  
Pomp of the meadow ! mirror of the morn !  
The soul of April, unto whom are born  
The rose and jessamine, leaps wild in thee !  
Although, where'er thy devious current strays,  
The lap of earth with gold and silver teems,  
To me thy clear proceeding brighter seems  
Than golden sands, that charm each shepherd's  
gaze.  
How without guile thy bosom, all transparent  
As the pure crystal, lets the curious eye  
Thy secrets scan, thy smooth, round pebbles  
count !  
How, without malice murmuring, glides thy  
current !  
O sweet simplicity of days gone by !  
Thou shunn'st the haunts of man, to dwell in

### THE CELESTIAL PILOT.

FROM DANTE. PURGATORIO, II.

AND now, behold ! as at the approach of  
morning,  
Through the gross vapors, Mars grows fiery  
red  
Down in the west upon the ocean floor,

Appeared to me, — may I again behold it ! —  
A light along the sea, so swiftly coming,  
Its motion by no flight of wing is equalled.

And when therefrom I had withdrawn a little  
Mine eyes, that I might question my conductor,  
Again I saw it brighter grown and larger.

Thereafter, on all sides of it, appeared  
I knew not what of white, and underneath,  
Little by little, there came forth another.

My master yet had uttered not a word,  
While the first brightness into wings unfolded ;  
But, when he clearly recognized the pilot,

He cried aloud ; “ Quick, quick, and bow the  
knee !

Behold the Angel of God ! fold up thy hands !  
Henceforward shalt thou see such officers !

“ See, how he scorns all human arguments,  
So that no oar he wants, nor other sail  
Than his own wings, between so distant shores !

“ See, how he holds them, pointed straight to  
heaven,  
Fanning the air with the eternal pinions,  
That do not moult themselves like mortal  
hair ! ”

And then, as nearer and more near us came  
The Bird of Heaven, more glorious he ap-  
peared,  
So that the eye could not sustain his presence,

But down I cast it ; and he came to shore  
With a small vessel, gliding swift and light,  
So that the water swallowed naught thereof.

Upon the stern stood the Celestial Pilot !  
Beatitude seemed written in his face !



"*In exitu Israel out of Egypt!*"  
Thus sang they all together in one voice,  
With whatso in that Psalm is after written.

Then made he sign of holy rood upon them,  
Whereat all cast themselves upon the shore,  
And he departed swiftly as he came.

### THE TERRESTRIAL PARADISE.

FROM DANTE. PURGATORIO, XXVIII.

LONGING already to search in and round  
The heavenly forest, dense and living-green,  
Which to the eyes tempered the new-born  
day,

Withouten more delay I left the bank,  
Crossing the level country slowly, slowly,  
Over the soil, that everywhere breathed fragrance.

A gently-breathing air, that no mutation  
Had in itself, smote me upon the forehead, —  
No heavier blow than of a pleasant breeze :

Whereat the tremulous branches readily  
Did all of them bow downward towards that  
side  
Where its first shadow casts the Holy Moun-  
tain ;

Yet not from their upright direction bent,  
So that the little birds upon their tops  
Should cease the practice of their tuneful  
art ;

But, with full-throated joy, the hours of prime  
Singing received they in the midst of foliage  
That made monotonous burden to their rhymes ;

Even as from branch to branch it gathering  
swells  
Through the pine forests on the shore of  
Chiassi,  
When Æolus unlooses the Sirocco.

Already my slow steps had led me on  
Into the ancient wood so far, that I  
Could see no more the place where I had

And lo ! my farther course cut off a river,  
Which, towards the left hand, with its little  
waves,  
Bent down the grass that on its margin  
sprang.

All waters that on earth most limpid are  
Would seem to have within themselves some  
mixture,  
Compared with that, which nothing doth con-  
ceal,

Although it moves on with a brown, brown  
current,  
Under the shade perpetual, that never  
Ray of the sun lets in, nor of the moon.

### BEATRICE.

FROM DANTE. PURGATORIO, XXX., XXXI.

EVEN as the Blessed, in the new covenant,  
Shall rise up quickened, each one from his  
grave,  
Wearing again the garments of the flesh,

So, upon that celestial chariot,  
A hundred rose *ad vocem tanti senis*,  
Ministers and messengers of life eternal.

They all were saying ; "*Benedictus qui venis,*"  
And scattering flowers above and round about,  
"*Manibus o date lilia plenis.*"

I once beheld, at the approach of day,  
The orient sky all stained with roseate hues,  
And the other heaven with light serene  
adorned,

And the sun's face uprising, overshadowed,  
So that, by temperate influence of vapors,  
The eye sustained his aspect for long while ;

Thus in the bosom of a cloud of flowers,  
Which from those hands angelic were thrown  
up,  
And down descended inside and without,

With crown of olive o'er a snow-white veil,  
Appeared a lady, under a green mantle,  
Vested in colors of the living flame.

Even as the snow, among the living rafters  
Upon the back of Italy, congeals,  
Blown on and beaten by Slavonian winds,

And then, dissolving, filters through itself,  
Whene'er the land, that loses shadow, breathes,  
Like as a taper melts before a fire,

Even such I was, without a sigh or tear,  
Before the song of those who chime for ever  
After the chiming of the eternal spheres ;

But, when I heard in those sweet melodies  
Compassion for me, more than had they said,  
" O, wherefore, lady, dost thou thus consume  
him ? "

The ice, that was about my heart congealed,  
To air and water changed, and, in my anguish,  
Through lips and eyes came gushing from my  
breast.

Confusion and dismay, together mingled,  
Forced such a feeble " Yes ! " out of my  
mouth,  
To understand it one had need of sight.

Even as a cross-bow breaks, when 't is dis-  
charged,  
Too tensely drawn the bow-string and the bow,  
And with less force the arrow hits the mark ;

So I gave way under this heavy burden,  
Gushing forth into bitter tears and sighs,  
And the voice, fainting, flagged upon its pas-  
sage.

### SPRING.

FROM THE FRENCH OF CHARLES D'ORLEANS.

XV. CENTURY.

GENTLE Spring, in sunshine clad,  
Well dost thou thy power display !  
For Winter maketh the light heart sad,  
And thou — thou makest the sad heart gay.  
He sees thee, and calls to his gloomy train,  
The sleet, and the snow, and the wind, and  
the rain ;  
And they shrink away, and they flee in fear,

Winter giveth the fields and the trees, so old,  
Their beards of icicles and snow ;  
And the rain, it raineth so fast and cold,  
We must cower over the embers low ;  
And, snugly housed from the wind and weather,  
Mope like birds that are changing feather.  
But the storm retires, and the sky grows clear,  
When thy merry step draws near.

Winter maketh the sun in the gloomy sky  
Wrap him round with a mantle of cloud ;  
But, Heaven be praised, thy step is nigh ;  
Thou tearest away the mournful shroud,  
And the earth looks bright, and Winter surly,  
Who has toiled for naught both late and early,  
Is banished afar by the new-born year,  
When thy merry step draws near.

### THE CHILD ASLEEP.

FROM THE FRENCH.

SWEET babe ! true portrait of thy father's face !  
Sleep on the bosom that thy lips have pressed !  
Sleep, little one ; and closely, gently place  
Thy drowsy eyelid on thy mother's breast !

Upon that tender eye, my little friend,  
Soft sleep shall come, that cometh not to me !  
I watch to see thee, nourish thee, defend ; —  
'T is sweet to watch for thee, — alone for  
thee !

His arms fall down ; sleep sits upon his brow ;  
His eye is closed ; he sleeps, nor dreams of  
harm.  
Wore not his cheek the apple's ruddy glow,  
Would you not say he slept on Death's cold  
arm ?

Awake, my boy ! — I tremble with affright ! —  
Awake, and chase this fatal thought ! — Un-  
close

Thine eye but for one moment on the light !  
Even at the price of thine, give me repose !

Sweet error ! — he but slept, — I breathe  
again ; —  
Come, gentle dreams, the hour of sleep be-  
guile !  
O, when shall he, for whom I sigh in vain,

THE GRAVE.

FROM THE ANGLO-SAXON.

For thee was a house built  
Ere thou wert born,  
For thee was a mould meant  
Ere thou of mother camest.  
But it is not made ready,  
Nor its depth measured,  
Nor is it seen  
How long it shall be.  
Now I bring thee  
Where thou shalt be ;  
Now I shall measure thee,  
And the mould afterwards.

Thy house is not  
Highly timbered,  
It is unhigh and low ;  
When thou art therein,  
The heel-ways are low,  
The side-ways unhigh.  
The roof is built  
Thy breast full nigh,  
So thou shalt in mould  
Dwell full cold,  
Dimly and dark.

Doorless is that house,  
And dark it is within ;  
There thou art fast detained,  
And Death hath the key.  
Loathsome is that earth-house,  
And grim within to dwell.  
There thou shalt dwell,  
And worms shall divide thee.

Thus thou art laid,  
And leavest thy friends ;  
Thou hast no friend  
Who will come to thee,  
Who will ever see  
How that house pleaseth thee,  
Who will ever open  
The door for thee,  
And descend after thee ;  
For soon thou art loathsome  
And hateful to see.

KING CHRISTIAN.

A NATIONAL SONG OF DENMARK.

FROM THE DANISH OF JOHANNES EVALD.

KING CHRISTIAN stood by the lofty mast  
In mist and smoke ;  
His sword was hammering so fast,  
Through Gothic helm and brain it passed ;  
Then sank each hostile hulk and mast,  
In mist and smoke.  
“ Fly ! ” shouted they, “ fly, he who can !  
Who braves of Denmark’s Christian  
The stroke ! ”

Nils Juel gave heed to the tempest’s roar,  
Now is the hour !  
He hoisted his blood-red flag once more,  
And smote upon the foe full sore,  
And shouted loud, through the tempest’s roar,  
“ Now is the hour ! ”  
“ Fly ! ” shouted they, “ for shelter fly !  
Of Denmark’s Juel who can defy  
The power ! ”

North Sea ! a glimpse of Wessel rent  
Thy murky sky !  
Then champions to thine arms were sent ;  
Terror and Death glared where he went ;  
From the waves was heard a wail, that rent  
Thy murky sky !  
From Denmark thunders Tordenskiol’ ;  
Let each to Heaven commend his soul,  
And fly !

Path of the Dane to fame and might !  
Dark-rolling wave !  
Receive thy friend, who, scorning flight,  
Goes to meet danger with despite,  
Proudly as thou the tempest’s might,  
Dark-rolling wave !  
And amid pleasures and alarms,  
And war and victory, be thine arms  
My grave ! \*

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\* Nils Juel was a celebrated Danish Admiral, and Peder Wessel, a Vice-Admiral, who for his great prowess received the popular title of Tordenskiold, or *Thunder-shield*. In childhood he was a tailor’s apprentice, and rose to his high rank before the age of twenty-eight, when he was killed in a duel.

## THE HAPPIEST LAND.

FRAGMENT OF A MODERN BALLAD.

FROM THE GERMAN.

THERE sat one day in quiet,  
By an alehouse on the Rhine,  
Four hale and hearty fellows,  
And drank the precious wine.

The landlord's daughter filled their cups,  
Around the rustic board ;  
Then sat they all so calm and still,  
And spake not one rude word.

But, when the maid departed,  
A Swabian raised his hand,  
And cried, all hot and flushed with wine,  
" Long live the Swabian land !

" The greatest kingdom upon earth  
Cannot with that compare ;  
With all the stout and hardy men  
And the nut-brown maidens there."

" Ha ! " cried a Saxon, laughing, —  
And dashed his beard with wine ;  
" I had rather live in Lapland,  
Than that Swabian land of thine !

" The goodliest land on all this earth,  
It is the Saxon land !  
There have I as many maidens  
As fingers on this hand ! "

" Hold your tongues ! both Swabian and  
Saxon ! "

A bold Bohemian cries ;  
" If there 's a heaven upon this earth,  
In Bohemia it lies.

" There the tailor blows the flute,  
And the cobbler blows the horn,  
And the miner blows the bugle,  
Over mountain gorge and bourn."

And then the landlord's daughter  
Up to heaven raised her hand,  
And said, " Ye may no more contend, —  
There lies the happiest land ! "

## THE WAVE.

FROM THE GERMAN OF TIEDGE.

" WHITHER, thou turbid wave !  
Whither, with so much haste,  
As if a thief wert thou ! "

" I am the Wave of Life,  
Stained with my margin's dust ;  
From the struggle and the strife  
Of the narrow stream I fly  
To the Sea's immensity,  
To wash from me the slime  
Of the muddy banks of Time."

## THE DEAD.

FROM THE GERMAN OF KLOPSTOCK.

How they so softly rest,  
All, all the holy dead,  
Unto whose dwelling-place  
Now doth my soul draw near !  
How they so softly rest,  
All in their silent graves,  
Deep to corruption  
Slowly down-sinking !

And they no longer weep,  
Here, where complaint is still !  
And they no longer feel,  
Here, where all gladness flies !  
And, by the cypresses  
Softly o'ershadowed,  
Until the Angel  
Calls them, they slumber !

## THE BIRD AND THE SHIP.

FROM THE GERMAN OF MÜLLER.

" THE rivers rush into the sea,  
By castle and town they go ;  
The winds behind them merrily  
Their noisy trumpets blow.

" The clouds are passing far and high,  
We little birds in them play ;  
And every thing, that can sing and fly,  
Goes with us and far away

I greet thee, bonny boat ! Whither, or  
whence,  
With thy fluttering golden band ? " —  
I greet thee, little bird ! To the wide sea  
I haste from the narrow land.

Full and swollen is every sail ;  
I see no longer a hill,  
Have trusted all to the sounding gale,  
And it will not let me stand still.

And wilt thou, little bird, go with us ?  
Thou may'st stand on the mainmast tall,  
Or full to sinking is my house  
With merry companions all."

I need not and seek not company,  
Bonny boat, I can sing all alone ;  
Or the mainmast tall too heavy am I,  
Bonny boat, I have wings of my own.

High over the sails, high over the mast,  
Who shall gainsay these joys ?  
When thy merry companions are still, at  
last,  
Thou shalt hear the sound of my voice.

Who neither may rest, nor listen may,  
God bless them every one !  
Hurtle away, in the bright blue day,  
And the golden fields of the sun.

Thus do I sing my weary song,  
Wherever the four winds blow ;  
And this same song, my whole life long,  
Neither poet nor printer may know."

### WHITHER ?

FROM THE GERMAN OF MÜLLER.

I HEARD a brooklet gushing  
From its rocky fountain near,  
Down into the valley rushing,  
So fresh and wondrous clear.

I know not what came o'er me,  
Nor who the counsel gave ;  
But I must hasten downward,

Downward, and ever farther,  
And ever the brook beside ;  
And ever fresher murmured,  
And ever clearer, the tide.

Is this the way I was going ?  
Whither, O brooklet, say !  
Thou hast, with thy soft murmur,  
Murmured my senses away.

What do I say of a murmur ?  
That can no murmur be ;  
'T is the water-nymphs, that are singing  
Their roundelays under me.

Let them sing, my friend, let them  
murmur,  
And wander merrily near ;  
The wheels of a mill are going  
In every brooklet clear.

### BEWARE !

FROM THE GERMAN.

I KNOW a maiden fair to see,  
Take care !  
She can both false and friendly be,  
Beware ! Beware !  
Trust her not,  
She is fooling thee !

She has two eyes, so soft and brown,  
Take care !  
She gives a side-glance and looks down,  
Beware ! Beware !  
Trust her not,  
She is fooling thee !

And she has hair of a golden hue,  
Take care !  
And what she says, it is not true,  
Beware ! Beware !  
Trust her not,  
She is fooling thee !

She has a bosom as white as snow,  
Take care !  
She knows how much it is best to show,  
Beware ! Beware !  
Trust her not,

She gives thee a garland woven fair,  
Take care!  
It is a fool's-cap for thee to wear,  
Beware! Beware!  
Trust her not,  
She is fooling thee!

---

### SONG OF THE BELL.

FROM THE GERMAN.

BELL! thou soundest merrily,  
When the bridal party  
To the church doth hie!  
Bell! thou soundest solemnly,  
When, on Sabbath morning,  
Fields deserted lie!

Bell! thou soundest merrily;  
Tellest thou at evening,  
Bed-time draweth nigh!  
Bell! thou soundest mournfully;  
Tellest thou the bitter  
Parting hath gone by!

Say! how canst thou mourn?  
How canst thou rejoice?  
Thou art but metal dull!  
And yet all our sorrowings,  
And all our rejoicings,  
Thou dost feel them all!

God hath wonders many,  
Which we cannot fathom,  
Placed within thy form!  
When the heart is sinking,  
Thou alone canst raise it,  
Trembling in the storm!

---

### THE CASTLE BY THE SEA.

FROM THE GERMAN OF UHLAND.

"HAST thou seen that lordly castle,  
That castle by the sea?  
Golden and red above it  
The clouds float gorgeously.

"And fain it would stoop downward

And fain it would soar upward  
In the evening's crimson glow."

"Well have I seen that castle,  
That castle by the sea,  
And the moon above it standing,  
And the mist rise solemnly."

"The winds and the waves of ocean,  
Had they a merry chime?  
Didst thou hear, from those lofty chambers  
The harp and the minstrel's rhyme?"

"The winds and the waves of ocean,  
They rested quietly,  
But I heard on the gale a sound of wail,  
And tears came to mine eye."

"And sawest thou on the turrets  
The king and his royal bride?  
And the wave of their crimson mantles!  
And the golden crown of pride!

"Led they not forth, in rapture,  
A beauteous maiden there?  
Resplendent as the morning sun,  
Beaming with golden hair?"

"Well saw I the ancient parents,  
Without the crown of pride;  
They were moving slow, in weeds of woe,  
No maiden was by their side!"

---

### THE BLACK KNIGHT.

FROM THE GERMAN OF UHLAND.

"T WAS Pentecost, the Feast of Gladness,  
When woods and fields put off all sadness.  
Thus began the king and spake:  
"So from the halls  
Of ancient Hofburg's walls,  
A luxuriant spring shall break."

Drums and trumpets echo loudly,  
Wave the crimson banners proudly.  
From balcony the king looked on;  
In the play of spears,  
Fell all the cavaliers

the barrier of the fight  
 de at last a sable knight.  
 "Sir Knight! your name and scutcheon?  
 say!"

Should I speak it here,  
 ; would stand aghast with fear;  
 I'm a prince of mighty sway!"

Then he rode into the lists,  
 he arch of heaven grew black with mists,  
 'And the castle 'gan to rock.  
 t the first blow,  
 all the youth from saddle-bow, —  
 Hardly rises from the shock.

ipe and viol call the dances,  
 urch-light through the high halls glances,  
 Waves a mighty shadow in;  
 With manner bland  
 both ask the maiden's hand,  
 Doth with her the dance begin;

danced in sable iron sark,  
 danced a measure weird and dark,  
 Coldly clasped her limbs around.  
 From breast and hair  
 Down fall from her the fair  
 Flowerets, faded, to the ground.

To the sumptuous banquet came  
 Every knight and every dame.  
 "Twixt son and daughter all distraught,  
 With mournful mind  
 The ancient king reclined,  
 Gazed at them in silent thought.

Pale the children both did look,  
 But the guest a beaker took:  
 "Golden wine will make you whole!"  
 The children drank,  
 Gave many a courteous thank:  
 "O, that draught was very cool!"

Each the father's breast embraces,  
 Son and daughter; and their faces  
 Colorless grow utterly.

Whichever way  
 Looks the fear-struck father gray,  
 He beholds his children die.

"Woe! the blessed children both  
 Takest thou in the joy of youth;  
 Take me, too, the joyless father!"  
 Spake the grim guest,  
 From his hollow, cavernous breast:  
 "Roses in the spring I gather!"

## SONG OF THE SILENT LAND.

FROM THE GERMAN OF SALIS.

Into the Silent Land!  
 Ah! who shall lead us thither?  
 Clouds in the evening sky more darkly gather,  
 And shattered wrecks lie thicker on the strand.  
 Who leads us with a gentle hand  
 Thither, O, thither,  
 Into the Silent Land!

Into the Silent Land!  
 To you, ye boundless regions  
 Of all perfection! Tender morning-visions  
 Of beauteous souls! The Future's pledge  
 and band!

Who in Life's battle firm doth stand  
 Shall bear Hope's tender blossoms  
 Into the Silent Land!

O Land! O Land!  
 For all the broken-hearted  
 The mildest herald by our fate allotted  
 Beckons, and with inverted torch doth stand  
 To lead us with a gentle hand  
 Into the land of the great departed,  
 Into the Silent Land!

## L'ENVOI.

Ye voices, that arose  
After the Evening's close,  
And whispered to my restless heart repose !

Go, breathe it in the ear  
Of all who doubt and fear,  
And say to them, " Be of good cheer ! "

~~~~~  
Ye sounds, so low and calm,
That in the groves of balm
Seemed to me like an angel's psalm !

~~~~~  
Go, mingle yet once more  
With the perpetual roar  
Of the pine forest, dark and hoar !

~~~~~  
Tongues of the dead, not lost,
But speaking from death's frost,
Like fiery tongues at Pentecost !

Glimmer, as funeral lamps,
Amid the chills and damp
Of the vast plain where Death encamps !

BALLADS AND OTHER POEMS.

PREFACE.

THERE IS ONE poem in this volume, in reference to which a few introductory remarks may be useful. It is *The Children of the Lord's Supper*, from the Swedish of Bishop Tegnér; a poem which enjoys no inconsiderable reputation in the North of Europe, and for its beauty and simplicity merits the attention of English readers. It is an idyl, descriptive of scenes in a Swedish village; and belongs to the same class of poems as the *Luise* of Voss, and the *Hermann und Dorothea* of Goethe.

There is something patriarchal still lingering about rural life in Sweden, which renders it a fit theme for song. Almost primeval simplicity reigns over that Northern land,—almost primeval solitude and stillness. You pass out from the gate of the city, and, as if by magic, the scene changes to a wild, woodland landscape. Around you are forests of fir. Overhead hang the long, fan-like branches, trailing with moss, and heavy with red and blue cones. Under foot is a carpet of yellow leaves; and the air is warm and balmy. On a wooden bridge you cross a little silver stream, and anon come forth into a pleasant and sunny land of farms. Wooden fences divide the adjoining fields. Across the road are gates, which are opened by troops of children. The peasants take off their hats as you pass; you sneeze, and they cry, "God bless you." The houses in the villages and smaller towns are all built of hewn timber, and for the most part painted red. The floors of the taverns are strewn with the fragrant tips of fir-boughs. In many villages there are no taverns, and the peasants make turns in receiving travellers. The thrifty housewife shows you into the best chamber, the walls of which are hung round with rude pictures from the Bible; and brings you her heavy silver spoons—an heirloom—to dip

bread with anise-seed and coriander in it, or perhaps a little pine-bark.

Meanwhile the sturdy husband has brought his horses from the plough, and harnessed them to your carriage. Solitary travellers come and go in uncouth one-horse chaises. Most of them have pipes in their mouths, and hanging around their necks, in front, a leather wallet, in which they carry tobacco, and the great bank-notes of the country, as large as your two hands. You meet, also, groups of Dalekarlian peasant-women, travelling homeward or town-ward in pursuit of work. They walk barefoot, carrying in their hands their shoes, which have high heels under the hollow of the foot, and soles of birch-bark.

Frequent, too, are the village churches, standing by the road-side, each in its own little garden of Gethsemane. In the parish register great events are doubtless recorded. Some old king was christened or buried in that church; and a little sexton, with a rusty key, shows you the baptismal font or the coffin. In the church-yard are a few flowers, and much green grass; and daily the shadow of the church-spire, with its long, tapering finger, counts the tombs, representing a dial-plate of human life, on which the hours and minutes are the graves of men. The stones are flat, and large, and low, and perhaps sunken, like the roofs of old houses. On some are armorial bearings; on others only the initials of the poor tenants, with a date, as on the roofs of Dutch cottages. They all sleep with their heads to the westward. Each held a lighted taper in his hand when he died; and in his coffin were placed his little heart-treasures, and a piece of money for his last journey. Babes that came lifeless into the world were carried in the arms of gray-haired old men to the only cradle they ever slept in; and in the shroud of the dead mother were laid the little garments of the child, that lived and died in her bosom. And over this scene the village

midnight, and says in his heart, "How quietly they rest, all the departed!"

Near the church-yard gate stands a poor-box, fastened to a post by iron bands, and secured by a padlock, with a sloping wooden roof to keep off the rain. If it be Sunday, the peasants sit on the church-steps and con their psalm-books. Others are coming down the road with their beloved pastor, who talks to them of holy things from beneath his broad-brimmed hat. He speaks of fields and harvests, and of the parable of the sower that went forth to sow. He leads them to the Good Shepherd, and to the pleasant pastures of the spirit-land. He is their patriarch, and, like Melchizedek, both priest and king, though he has no other throne than the church-pulpit. The women carry psalm-books in their hands, wrapped in silk handkerchiefs, and listen devoutly to the good man's words. But the young men, like Gallio, care for none of these things. They are busy counting the plaits in the kirtles of the peasant-girls, their number being an indication of the wearer's wealth. It may end in a wedding.

I will endeavour to describe a village wedding in Sweden. It shall be in summer time, that there may be flowers, and in a southern province, that the bride may be fair. The early song of the lark and of chanticleer are mingling in the clear morning air, and the sun, the heavenly bridegroom with golden locks, arises in the east, just as our earthly bridegroom with yellow hair arises in the south. In the yard there is a sound of voices and trampling of hoofs, and horses are led forth and saddled. The steed that is to bear the bridegroom has a bunch of flowers upon his forehead, and a garland of corn-flowers around his neck. Friends from the neighbouring farms come riding in, their blue cloaks streaming to the wind; and finally the happy bridegroom, with a whip in his hand, and a monstrous nosegay in the breast of his black jacket, comes forth from his chamber; and then to horse and away, towards the village where the bride already sits and waits.

Foremost rides the Spokesman, followed by some half dozen village musicians. Next comes the bridegroom between his two groomsmen, and then forty or fifty friends and wedding-guests, half of them perhaps with pistols

wagon brings up the rear, laden with food and drink for these merry pilgrims. At the entrance of every village stands a triumphal arch adorned with flowers and ribands and evergreens; and as they pass beneath it the wedding-guests fire a salute, and the whole procession stops. And straight from every pocket flies a black-jack, filled with punch or brandy. It is passed from hand to hand among the crowd; provisions are brought from the wagon, and, after eating and drinking and hurrahing, the procession moves forward again, and length draws near the house of the bride. Four heralds ride forward to announce that the knight and his attendants are in a neighbouring forest, and pray for hospitality. "How many are you?" asks the bride's father. "At least three hundred," is the answer; and to this the host replies, "Yes; were you seven times as many, you should all be welcome; and in token thereof receive this cup." Whereupon each herald receives a can of ale, and soon after the whole jovial company commencing storming into the farmer's yard, and, riding round the May-pole which stands in the centre, alights amid a grand salute and flourish of music.

In the hall sits the bride, with a crown upon her head and a tear in her eye, like the Virgin Mary in old church paintings. She is dressed in a red bodice and kirtle, with long linen sleeves. There is a gilded belt around her waist; and around her neck strings of golden beads, and a golden chain. On the crown rests a wreath of wild roses, and below it another of cypress. Loose over her shoulders falls her flaxen hair; and her blue innocent eyes are fixed upon the ground. "Thou good soul! thou hast hard hands, but a soft heart! Thou art poor. The very ornaments thou wearest are not thine. They have been hired for this great day. Yet art thou rich; rich in health, rich in hope, rich in thy first, young, fervent love. The blessing of Heaven be upon thee! So thinks the parish priest, as he joins together the hands of bride and bridegroom, saying in deep, solemn tones — "I give thee in marriage this damsel, to be thy wedded wife in all honor, and to share the half of thy bed, thy lock and key, and every third penny which you two may possess, or may inherit, and all the rights which Upland

The dinner is now served, and the bride sits between the bridegroom and the priest. The spokesman delivers an oration, after the ancient custom of his fathers. He interlards it with quotations from the Bible; and invites the bride to be present at this marriage-feast, as was at the marriage-feast in Cana of Galilee. The table is not sparingly set forth. Each takes a long arm, and the feast goes cheerily. Punch and brandy pass round between the courses, and here and there a pipe is smoked, while waiting for the next dish. They sit long at the table; but, as all things must have an end, must a Swedish dinner. Then the dance begins. It is led off by the bride and the priest, to perform a solemn minuet together. Not after midnight comes the Last Dance. The girls form a ring around the bride, to keep her from the hands of the married women, who endeavour to break through the magic circle and take their new sister. After long struggling they succeed; and the crown is taken from her head and the jewels from her neck, and her bodice is unlaced and her kirtle taken off; and like a vestal virgin clad all in white she goes, but it is to her marriage-chamber, not to a grave; and the wedding-guests follow her with lighted candles in their hands. And this is the village bridal.

Nor must I forget the suddenly changing seasons of the Northern clime. There is no long and lingering spring, unfolding leaf and blossom one by one;—no long and lingering autumn, pompous with many-colored leaves and the glow of Indian summers. But winter and summer are wonderful, and pass into each other. The quail has hardly ceased piping in the corn, when winter from the folds of trailing clouds sows broad-cast over the land snow, frosts, and rattling hail. The days wane away. Ere long the sun hardly rises above the horizon, or does not rise at all. The moon and the stars shine through the day; and, at noon, they are pale and wan, and in the southern sky a red, fiery glow, as of sunset, burns along the horizon, and then goes down. And pleasantly under the silver moon, and under the silent, solemn stars, ring the skates of the skaters on the frozen sea, and the voices, and the sound of bells.

And now the Northern Lights begin to gleam, faintly at first, like sunbeams playing in

son glow tinges the heavens. There is a blush on the cheek of night. The colors come and go; and change from crimson to gold, from gold to crimson. The snow is stained with rosy light. Twofold from the zenith, east and west, flames a fiery sword; and a broad band passes athwart the heavens, like a summer sunset. Soft purple clouds come sailing over the sky, and through their vapory folds the winking stars shine white as silver. With such pomp as this is Merry Christmas ushered in, though only a single star heralded the first Christmas. And in memory of that day the Swedish peasants dance on straw; and the peasant-girls throw straws at the timbered roof of the hall, and for every one that sticks in a crack shall a groomsman come to their wedding. Merry Christmas indeed! For pious souls there shall be church-songs and sermons, but for Swedish peasants, brandy and nut-brown ale in wooden bowls; and the great Yulecake crowned with a cheese, and garlanded with apples, and upholding a three-armed candlestick over the Christmas feast. They may tell tales, too, of Jöns Lundsbracka, and Lunkenfus, and the great Riddar Finke of Pingsdaga.*

And now the glad, leafy midsummer, full of blossoms and the song of nightingales, is come! Saint John has taken the flowers and festival of heathen Balder; and in every village there is a May-pole fifty feet high, with wreaths and roses and ribands streaming in the wind, and a noisy weathercock on the top, to tell the village whence the wind cometh and whither it goeth. The sun does not set till ten o'clock at night; and the children are at play in the streets an hour later. The windows and doors are all open, and you may sit and read till midnight without a candle. O, how beautiful is the summer night, which is not night, but a sunless yet unclouded day, descending upon earth with dews, and shadows, and refreshing coolness! How beautiful the long, mild twilight, which, like a silver clasp, unites to-day with yesterday! How beautiful the silent hour, when Morning and Evening thus sit together, hand in hand, beneath the starless sky of midnight! From the church-tower in the public square the bell tolls the hour, with a soft, musical chime;

and the watchman, whose watchtower is the belfry, blows a blast in his horn for each stroke of the hammer, and four times, to the four corners of the heavens, in a sonorous voice he chants, —

“Ho! watchman, ho!
Twelve is the clock!
God keep our town
From fire and brand
And hostile hand!
Twelve is the clock!”

From his swallow’s-nest in the belfry he can see the sun all night long; and farther north the priest stands at his door in the warm midnight, and lights his pipe with a common burning-glass.

I trust that these remarks will not be deemed irrelevant to the poem, but will lead to a clearer understanding of it. The translation is literal, perhaps to a fault. In no instance have I done the author a wrong, by introducing into his work any supposed improvements or embellishments of my own. I have pre-

served even the measure; that inexorable hexameter, in which, it must be confessed, the motions of the English Muse are not unlike those of a prisoner dancing to the music of his chains; and perhaps, as Dr. Johnson said of the dancing dog, “the wonder is not that she should do it so well, but that she should do it at all.”

Esaías Tegné, the author of this poem, was born in the parish of By in Wärrmland, in the year 1782. In 1799, he entered the University of Lund, as a student; and in 1812, was appointed Professor of Greek in that institution. In 1824, he became Bishop of Wexiö, which office he still holds. He stands first among the poets of Sweden, living or dead. His principal work is *Frithiofs Saga*; one of the most remarkable poems of the age. The modern Scald has written his name in immortal runes. He is the glory and boast of Sweden; a prophet, honored in his own country, and adding one more to the list of great names that adorn her history.

BALLADS.

THE SKELETON IN ARMOR.

[THE following ballad was suggested to me while riding on the sea-shore at Newport. A year or two previous a skeleton had been dug up at Fall River, clad in broken and corroded armor; and the idea occurred to me of connecting it with the Round Tower at Newport, generally known hitherto as the Old Windmill, though now claimed by the Danes as a work of their early ancestors. Professor Rafn, in the *Mémoires de la Société Royale des Antiquaires du Nord*, for 1838–1839, says:—

“There is no mistaking in this instance the style in which the more ancient stone edifices of the North were constructed, the style which belongs to the Roman or ante-Gothic architecture, and which, especially after the time of Charlemagne, diffused itself from Italy over the whole of the West and North of Europe, where it continued to predominate until the close of the twelfth century; that style, which some authors have, from one of its most striking characteristics, called the round-arch style, the same which in England is denominated Sax-

“On the ancient structure in Newport there are no ornaments remaining, which might possibly have served to guide us in assigning the probable date of its erection. That no vestige whatever is found of the pointed arch, nor any approximation to it, is indicative of an earlier rather than of a later period. From such characteristics as remain, however, we can scarcely form any other inference than one, in which I am persuaded that all who are familiar with old Northern architecture will concur. THAT THIS BUILDING WAS ERRECTED AT A PERIOD DECIDEDLY NOT LATER THAN THE TWELFTH CENTURY. This remark applies, of course, to the original building only, and not to the alterations that it subsequently received; for there are several such alterations in the upper part of the building which cannot be mistaken, and which were most likely occasioned by its being adapted in modern times to various uses, for example as the substructure of a windmill, and latterly as a hay-magazine. To the same times may be referred the windows, the fireplace, and the apertures made above the columns. That this building could not have been erected for a windmill is what an architect will

I will not enter into a discussion of the point. It is sufficiently well established for the purpose of a ballad ; though doubtless many an honest citizen of Newport, who has passed his days within sight of the Round Tower, will be ready to exclaim with Sancho, — " God bless me ! did I not warn you to have a care of what you were doing, for that it was nothing but a windmill ; and nobody could mistake it, but one who had the like in his head."]

—
 " SPEAK ! speak ! thou fearful guest !
 Who, with thy hollow breast
 Still in rude armor drest,
 Comest to daunt me !
 Wrapt not in Eastern balms,
 But with thy fleshless palms
 Stretched, as if asking alms,
 Why dost thou haunt me ? "

Then, from those cavernous eyes
 Pale flashes seem to rise,
 As when the Northern skies
 Gleam in December ;
 And, like the water's flow
 Under December's snow,
 Came a dull voice of woe
 From the heart's chamber.

" I was a Viking old !
 My deeds, though manifold,
 No Skald in song has told,
 No Saga taught thee !
 Take heed, that in thy verse
 Thou dost the tale rehearse,
 Else dread a dead man's curse !
 For this I sought thee.

" Far in the Northern Land,
 By the wild Baltic's strand,
 I, with my childish hand,
 Tamed the gerfalcon ;
 And, with my skates fast bound,
 Skimmed the half-frozen Sound,
 That the poor whimpering hound
 Trembled to walk on.

" Oft to his frozen lair
 Tracked I the grisly bear,
 While from my path the hare
 Fled like a shadow ;
 Oft through the forest dark
 Followed the were-wolf's bark,
 Until the soaring lark

" But when I older grew,
 Joining a corsair's crew,
 O'er the dark sea I flew
 With the marauders.
 Wild was the life we led ;
 Many the souls that sped,
 Many the hearts that bled,
 By our stern orders.

" Many a wassail-bout
 Wore the long winter out ;
 Often our midnight shout
 Set the cocks crowing,
 As we the Berserk's tale
 Measured in cups of ale,
 Draining the oaken pail,
 Filled to o'erflowing.

" Once as I told in glee
 Tales of the stormy sea,
 Soft eyes did gaze on me,
 Burning yet tender ;
 And as the white stars shine
 On the dark Norway pine,
 On that dark heart of mine
 Fell their soft splendor.

" I wooed the blue-eyed maid,
 Yielding, yet half afraid,
 And in the forest's shade
 Our vows were plighted.
 Under its loosened vest
 Fluttered her little breast,
 Like birds within their nest
 By the hawk frightened.

" Bright in her father's hall
 Shields gleamed upon the wall,
 Loud sang the minstrels all,
 Chanting his glory ;
 When of old Hildebrand
 I asked his daughter's hand,
 Mute did the minstrels stand
 To hear my story.

" While the brown ale he quaffed,
 Loud then the champion laughed,
 And as the wind-gusts waft
 The sea-foam brightly,
 So the loud laugh of scorn,
 Out of those lips unshorn,
 From the deep drinking-horn

"She was a prince's child,
I but a Viking wild,
And though she blushed and smiled,
I was discarded !
Should not the dove so white
Follow the sea-mew's flight,
Why did they leave that night
Her nest unguarded !

"Scarce had I put to sea,
Bearing the maid with me, —
Fairest of all was she
Among the Norsemen ! —
When on the white sea-strand,
Waving his armed hand,
Saw we old Hildebrand,
With twenty horsemen.

"Then launched they to the blast,
Bent like a reed each mast,
Yet we were gaining fast,
When the wind failed us ;
And with a sudden flaw
Came round the gusty Skaw,
So that our foe we saw
Laugh as he hailed us.

"And as to catch the gale
Round veered the flapping sail,
Death ! was the helmsman's hail,
Death without quarter !
Mid-ships, with iron keel,
Struck we her ribs of steel ;
Down her black hulk did reel
Through the black water !

"As, with his wings aslant,
Sails the fierce cormorant,
Seeking some rocky haunt,
With his prey laden,
So toward the open main,
Beating to sea again
Through the wild hurricane,
Bore I the maiden.

"Three weeks we westward bore,
And, when the storm was o'er,
Cloud-like we saw the shore
Stretching to leeward ;
There for my lady's bower
Built I the lofty tower,
Which, to this very hour,

"There lived we many years ;
Time dried the maiden's tears ;
She had forgot her fears,
She was a mother ;
Death closed her mild blue eyes ;
Under that tower she lies ;
Ne'er shall the sun arise
On such another !

"Still grew my bosom then,
Still as a stagnant fen !
Hateful to me were men,
The sun-light hateful !
In the vast forest here,
Clad in my warlike gear,
Fell I upon my spear, —
O, death was grateful !

"Thus, seamed with many scars,
Bursting these prison-bars,
Up to its native stars
My soul ascended !
There from the flowing bowl
Deep drinks the warrior's soul,
Skool ! to the Northland ! *skool !* " *
— Thus the tale ended.

THE WRECK OF THE HESPERUS.

It was the schooner Hesperus,
That sailed the wintry sea ;
And the skipper had taken his little daughter,
To bear him company.

Blue were her eyes as the fairy-flax,
Her cheeks like the dawn of day,
And her bosom white as the hawthorn-buds,
That ope in the month of May.

The skipper he stood beside the helm,
With his pipe in his mouth,
And watched how the veering flaw did blow
The smoke, now west, now south.

Then up and spake an old sailòr,
Had sailed the Spanish Main, —
"I pray thee put into yonder port,
For I fear a hurricane.

* In Scandinavia *Skool* is the customary salutation when drinking a health. I have slightly changed the orthography of the word, in ord

"Last night, the moon had a golden ring,
And to-night no moon we see!"
The skipper, he blew a whiff from his pipe,
And a scornful laugh laughed he.

Colder and louder blew the wind,
A gale from the northeast;
The snow fell hissing in the brine,
And the billows frothed like yeast.

Down came the storm, and smote amain
The vessel in its strength;
She shuddered and paused, like a frightened steed,
Then leaped her cable's length.

"Come hither! come hither! my little daughter,
And do not tremble so;
For I can weather the roughest gale
That ever wind did blow."

He wrapped her warm in his seaman's coat
Against the stinging blast;
He cut a rope from a broken spar,
And bound her to the mast.

"O father! I hear the church-bells ring,
O, say, what may it be?"
"T is a fog-bell on a rock-bound coast!" —
And he steered for the open sea.

"O father! I hear the sound of guns,
O, say, what may it be?"
"Some ship in distress, that cannot live
In such an angry sea!"

"O father! I see a gleaming light,
O, say, what may it be?"
But the father answered never a word,
A frozen corpse was he.

Lashed to the helm, all stiff and stark,
With his face to the skies,
The lantern gleamed through the gleaming snow
On his fixed and glassy eyes.

Then the maiden clasped her hands and prayed
That saved she might be;
And she thought of Christ, who stilled the wave
On the Lake of Galilee.

And fast through the midnight dark and drear,
Through the whistling sleet and snow,
Like a sheeted ghost, the vessel swept

And ever the fitful gusts between
A sound came from the land;
It was the sound of the trampling surf,
On the rocks and the hard sea-sand.

The breakers were right beneath her bows,
She drifted a dreary wreck,
And a whooping billow swept the crew
Like icicles from her deck.

She struck where the white and fleecy waves
Looked soft as carded wool,
But the cruel rocks, they gored her side
Like the horns of an angry bull.

Her rattling shrouds, all sheathed in ice,
With the masts went by the board;
Like a vessel of glass, she strove and sank,
Ho! ho! the breakers roared!

At daybreak, on the bleak sea-beach,
A fisherman stood aghast,
To see the form of a maiden fair
Lashed close to a drifting mast.

The salt sea was frozen on her breast,
The salt tears in her eyes;
And he saw her hair, like the brown sea-weed,
On the billows fall and rise.

Such was the wreck of the Hesperus,
In the midnight and the snow!
Christ save us all from a death like this,
On the reef of Norman's Woe!

THE LUCK OF EDENHALL.

FROM THE GERMAN OF UHLAND.

[The tradition upon which this ballad is founded, and the "shards of the Luck of Edenhall," still exist in England. The goblet is in the possession of Sir Christopher Musgrave, Bart., of Eden Hall, Cumberland; and is not so entirely shattered as the ballad leaves it.]

Of Edenhall the youthful lord
Bids sound the festal trumpet's call;
He rises at the banquet board,
And cries, 'mid the drunken revellers all,
"Now bring me the Luck of Edenhall!"

The butler hears the words with pain, —
The house's oldest seneschal, —
Takes slow from its silken cloth again
The drinking-glass of crystal tall;

Then said the lord, " This glass to praise,
 Fill with red wine from Portugal ! "
 The graybeard with trembling hand obeys ;
 A purple light shines over all ;
 It beams from the Luck of Edenhall.

Then speaks the lord, and waves it light, —
 " This glass of flashing crystal tall
 Gave to my sires the Fountain-Sprite ;
 She wrote in it, *If this glass doth fall,*
Farewell then, O Luck of Edenhall !

" 'T was right a goblet the fate should be
 Of the joyous race of Edenhall !
 We drink deep draughts right willingly ;
 And willingly ring, with merry call,
 Kling ! klang ! to the Luck of Edenhall ! "

First rings it deep, and full, and mild,
 Like to the song of a nightingale ;
 Then like the roar of a torrent wild ;
 Then mutters, at last, like the thunder's fall,
 The glorious Luck of Edenhall.

" For its keeper, takes a race of might
 The fragile goblet of crystal tall ;
 It has lasted longer than is right ;
 Kling ! klang ! — with a harder blow than all
 Will I try the Luck of Edenhall ! "

As the goblet, ringing, flies apart,
 Suddenly cracks the vaulted hall ;
 And through the rift the flames upstart ;
 The guests in dust are scattered all
 With the breaking Luck of Edenhall !

In storms the foe, with fire and sword !
 He in the night had scaled the wall ;
 Slain by the sword lies the youthful lord,
 But holds in his hand the crystal tall,
 The shattered Luck of Edenhall.

On the morrow the butler gropes alone,
 The graybeard in the desert hall ;
 He seeks his lord's burnt skeleton ;
 He seeks in the dismal ruin's fall
 The shards of the Luck of Edenhall.

" The stone wall," saith he, " doth fall aside ;
 Down must the stately columns fall ;
 Glass is this earth's Luck and Pride ;
 In atoms shall fall this earthly ball,

THE ELECTED KNIGHT.

FROM THE DANISH.

[The following strange and somewhat mystical ballad is from Nyerup and Rahbek's *Danske Viser* of the Middle Ages. It seems to refer to the first preaching of Christianity in the North, and to the institution of knight-errantry. The three maidens I suppose to be Faith, Hope, and Charity. The irregularities of the original have been carefully preserved in the translation.]

SIR OLUF he rideth over the plain,
 Full seven miles broad and seven miles wide ;
 But never, ah ! never, can meet with the man
 A tilt with him dare ride.

He saw under the hill-side
 A knight full well equipped ;
 His steel was black, his helm was barred ;
 He was riding at full speed.

He wore upon his spurs
 Twelve little golden birds ;
 Anon he spurred his steed with a clang,
 And there sat all the birds and sang.

He wore upon his mail
 Twelve little golden wheels ;
 Anon in eddies the wild wind blew,
 And round and round the wheels they flew.

He wore before his breast
 A lance that was poised in rest,
 And it was sharper than diamond-stone ;
 It made Sir Oluf's heart to groan.

He wore upon his helm
 A wreath of ruddy gold ;
 And that gave him the Maidens Three,
 The youngest was fair to behold.

Sir Oluf questioned the knight eftsoon
 If he were come from heaven down ;
 " Art thou Christ of Heaven ? " quoth he,
 " So will I yield me unto thee."

" I am not Christ the Great,
 Thou shalt not yield thee yet ;
 I am an Unknown Knight,
 Three modest Maidens have me bedight."

" Art thou a knight elected ?
 And have three maidens thee bedight ?
 So shalt thou ride a tilt this day,

The first tilt they together rode,
They put their steeds to the test ;
The second tilt they together rode,
They proved their manhood best.

The third tilt they together rode,
Neither of them would yield ;

The fourth tilt they together rode,
They both fell on the field.

Now lie the lords upon the plain,
And their blood runs unto death ;
Now sit the Maidens in the high tower,
The youngest sorrows till death.

THE CHILDREN OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

FROM THE SWEDISH OF BISHOP TEGNÉR.

PENTECOST, day of rejoicing, had come. The church of the village stood gleaming white in the morning's sheen. On the spire of the belfry, tipped with a vane of metal, the friendly flames of the spring sun danced like the tongues of fire beheld by Apostles aforetime. Clear was the heaven and blue, and May, with her cap crowned with roses, stood in her holyday dress in the fields, and the wind and the brooklet murmured gladness and peace, God's-peace ! With lips rosy-tinted whispered the race of the flowers, and merry on balancing branches birds were singing their carol, a jubilant hymn to the Highest. Swept and clean was the church-yard. Adorned like a leaf-woven arbor stood its old-fashioned gate ; and within upon each cross of iron hung was a sweet-scented garland, new-twined by the hands of affection. Even the dial, that stood on a fountain among the departed (There full a hundred years had it stood), was embellished with blossoms. Like to the patriarch hoary, the sage of his kith and the hamlet, who on his birthday is crowned by children and children's children, so stood the ancient prophet, and mute with his pencil of iron marked on the tablet of stone, and measured the swift-changing moment, while all around, at his feet, an eternity slum-

Also the church within was adorned, for this was the season in which the young, their parents' hope, and the loved-ones of Heaven, should at the foot of the altar renew the vows of their baptism. Therefore each nook and corner were swept and cleaned, and the dust was blown from the walls and ceiling, and from the oil-painted benches. There stood the church like a garden ; the Feast of the Leafy Pavilions¹ saw we in living presentment. From noble arms on the church-wall grew forth a cluster of leaves, and the preacher's pulpit of oak-wood budded once more anew, as aforetime the rod before Aaron. Wreathed thereon was the Bible with leaves, and the dove, washed with silver. Under its canopy fastened, a necklace had on of wind-flowers. But in front of the choir, round the altar-piece painted by Hörberg,² crept a garland gigantic ; and bright-curling tresses of angels peeped, like the sun from a cloud, out of the shadowy leaf-work. Likewise the lustre of brass, new-polished, blinked from the ceiling, and for lights there were lilies of Pentecost set in the sockets.

¹ The Feast of the Tabernacles ; in Swedish, *Lofhyddohögstiden*, the Leaf-huts'-high-tide.

² The peasant-painter of Sweden. He is known chiefly by his altar-pieces in the village

Loud rang the bells already ; the thronging
 crowd was assembled
 Far from valleys and hills, to list to the holy
 preaching.
 Hark ! then roll forth at once the mighty tones
 from the organ,
 Hover like voices from God, aloft, like invis-
 ble spirits.
 Like as Elias in heaven, when he cast off from
 him his mantle,
 Even so cast off the soul its garments of earth ;
 and with one voice
 Chimed in the congregation, and sang an anthem
 immortal
 Of the sublime Wallin,* of David's harp in the
 North-land,
 Tuned to the choral of Luther ; the song on its
 powerful pinions
 Took every living soul, and lifted it gently to
 heaven,
 And every face did shine like the Holy One's
 face upon Tabor.
 Lo ! there entered then into the church the
 reverend teacher.
 Father he hight, and he was, in the parish ; a
 Christianly plainness
 Clothed from his head to his feet the old man
 of seventy winters.
 Friendly was he to behold, and glad as the
 heralding angel
 Walked he among the crowds ; but still a con-
 templative grandeur
 Lay on his forehead, as clear as on moss-cover-
 ed grave-stone a sunbeam.
 As, in his inspiration (an evening twilight that
 faintly
 Gleams in the human soul, even now, from the
 day of creation),
 The Artist, the friend of Heaven, imagines
 Saint John when in Patmos,
 Gray, with his eyes uplifted to heaven, so
 seemed then the old man ;
 Such was the glance of his eye, and such were
 his tresses of silver.
 All the congregation arose in the pews that
 were numbered ;
 But with a cordial look, to the right and the
 left hand, the old man,
 Nodding all hail and peace, disappeared in the
 innermost chancel.

Simply and solemnly now proceeded the
 Christian service,
 Singing and prayer, and at last an ardent dis-
 course from the old man.
 Many a moving word and warning, that out of
 the heart came,
 Fell like the dew of the morning, like manna
 on those in the desert.
 Afterwards, when all was finished, the teacher
 reëntered the chancel,
 Followed therein by the young. On the right
 hand the boys had their places,
 Delicate figures, with close-curling hair and
 cheeks rosy-blooming ;
 But on the left hand of these, there stood the
 tremulous lilies,
 Tinged with the blushing light of the morning,
 the diffident maidens, —
 Folding their hands in prayer, and their eyes
 cast down on the pavement.
 Now came, with question and answer, the cate-
 chism. In the beginning
 Answered the children with troubled and fal-
 tering voice, but the old man's
 Glances of kindness encouraged them soon,
 and the doctrines eternal
 Flowed, like the waters of fountains, so clear
 from lips unpolluted.
 Whene'er the answer was closed, and as oft as
 they named the Redeemer,
 Lowly louted the boys, and lowly the maidens
 all courtesied.
 Friendly the teacher stood, like an angel of
 light there among them,
 And to the children explained he the holy, the
 highest, in few words,
 Thorough, yet simple and clear ; for sublimity
 always is simple,
 Both in sermon and song, a child can seize on
 its meaning.
 Even as the green-growing bud is unfolded
 when springtide approaches,
 Leaf by leaf is developed, and, warmed by the
 radiant sunshine,
 Blushes with purple and gold, till at last the
 perfected blossom
 Opens its odorous chalice, and rocks with its
 crown in the breezes, —
 So was unfolded here the Christian lore of
 salvation,
 Line by line, from the soul of childhood. The
 fathers and mothers
 Stood behind them in tears, and were glad at

* A distinguished pulpit-orator and poet. He is particularly remarkable for the beauty and

Now went the old man up to the altar; —
 and straightway transfigured
 so did it seem unto me) was then the affectionate teacher.
 As the Lord's prophet sublime, and awful as
 Death and as Judgment,
 Good he, the God-commissioned, the soul-searcher, earthward descending.
 Sharp as a sword, into hearts, that to
 him were transparent,
 Not he; his voice was deep, was low like the
 thunder afar off.
 On a sudden transfigured he stood there, he
 spake and he questioned.

"This is the faith of the Fathers, the faith
 the Apostles delivered;
 This is, moreover, the faith whereunto I baptized
 you, while still ye
 lay on your mother's breasts, and nearer the
 portals of heaven.
 Numbering received you then the Holy Church
 in its bosom;

Awakened from sleep are ye now, and the light
 in its radiant splendor
 shines from the heaven downward; — to-day
 on the threshold of childhood

Kindly she frees you again, to examine and
 make your election,

For she knows naught of compulsion, only
 conviction desireth.

This is the hour of your trial, the turning-point
 of existence,

Seed for the coming days; without revocation
 departeth

Now from your lips the confession; bethink
 ye before ye make answer!

Think not, O, think not with guile to deceive
 the questioning teacher!

Sharp is his eye to-day, and a curse ever rests
 upon falsehood.

Enter not with a lie on life's journey; the
 multitude hears you,

Brothers and sisters and parents, what dear
 upon earth is and holy

Standeth before your sight as a witness; the
 Judge Everlasting

Looks from the sun down upon you, and angels
 in waiting beside him

Grave your confession, in letters of fire, upon
 tablets eternal.

then, — believe ye in God, in the Father

Him who redeemed it, the Son? and the Spirit
 where both are united?

Will ye promise me here (a holy promise!) to
 cherish

God more than all things earthly, and every
 man as a brother?

Will ye promise me here to confirm your faith
 by your living, —

The heavenly faith of affection? — to hope, to
 forgive, and to suffer,

Be what it may your condition, and walk be-
 fore God in uprightness?

Will ye promise me this before God and man?"
 — With a clear voice

Answered the young men, Yes! and Yes! with
 lips softly breathing

Answered the maidens eke. Then dissolved
 from the brow of the teacher

Clouds with the thunders therein, and he spake
 on in accents more gentle,

Soft as the evening's breath, as harps by Baby-
 lon's rivers.

"Hail, then, hail to you all! To the heir-
 dom of heaven be ye welcome!

Children no more from this day, but by cove-
 nant brothers and sisters!

Yet, — for what reason not children? Of such
 is the kingdom of heaven.

Here upon earth an assemblage of children, in
 heaven one Father,

Ruling them as his own household, — forgiv-
 ing in turn and chastising:

That is of human life a picture, as Scripture
 has taught us.

Blessed are the pure before God! Upon purity
 and upon virtue

Resteth the Christian Faith; she herself from
 on high is descended.

Strong as a man and pure as a child, is the sum
 of the doctrine

Which the Godlike delivered, and on the cross
 suffered and died for.

O, as ye wander this day from childhood's sa-
 cred asylum

Downward and ever downward, and deeper in
 Age's chill valley,

O, how soon will ye come, — too soon! — and
 long to turn backward

Up to its hill-tops again, to the sun-illuminated,
 where Judgment

Stood like a father before you, and Pardon,

Gave you her hand to kiss, and the loving
 heart was forgiven,
 Life was a play, and your hands grasped after
 the roses of heaven !
 Seventy years have I lived already ; the Father
 Eternal
 Gave to me gladness and care ; but the loveliest
 hours of existence,
 When I have steadfastly gazed in their eyes, I
 have instantly known them,
 Known them all, all again ; — they were my
 childhood's acquaintance.
 Therefore take, from henceforth, as guides in
 the paths of existence,
 Prayer, with her eyes raised to heaven, and
 Innocence, bride of man's childhood.
 Innocence, child beloved, is a guest from the
 world of the blessed,
 Beautiful, and in her hand a lily ; on life's
 roaring billows
 Swings she in safety, she heedeth them not, in
 the ship she is sleeping.
 Calmly she gazes around in the turmoil of men ;
 in the desert
 Angels descend and minister unto her ; she
 herself knoweth
 Naught of her glorious attendance ; but follows
 faithful and humble,
 Follows, so long as she may, her friend ; O, do
 not reject her,
 For she cometh from God, and she holdeth the
 keys of the heavens. —
 Prayer is Innocence' friend ; and willingly fly-
 eth incessant
 'Twixt the earth and the sky, the carrier-pigeon
 of heaven.
 Son of Eternity, fettered in Time, and an exile,
 the spirit
 Tugs at his chains evermore, and struggles like
 flames ever upward.
 Still he recalls with emotion his Father's mani-
 fold mansions,
 Thinks of the land of his fathers, where blo-
 somed more freshly the flowers,
 Shone a more beautiful sun, and he played
 with the winged angels.
 Then grows the earth too narrow, too close ;
 and homesick for heaven
 Longs the wanderer again ; and the spirit's
 longings are worship ;
 Worship is called his most beautiful hour, and
 its tongue is entreaty.

Ah ! when the infinite burden of life descend-
 eth upon us,
 Crushes to earth our hope, and, under the
 earth, in the grave-yard, —
 Then it is good to pray unto God ; for his
 rowing children
 Turns he ne'er from his door, but he heals and
 helps and consoles them.
 Yet is it better to pray when all things are
 prosperous with us,
 Pray in fortunate days, for life's most beautiful
 Fortune
 Kneels down before the Eternal's throne ; and
 with hands interfolded,
 Praises thankful and moved the only giver of
 blessings.
 Or do ye know, ye children, one blessing that
 comes not from Heaven ?
 What has mankind forsooth, the poor ! that it
 has not received !
 Therefore fall in the dust and pray ! The ser-
 aphs adoring
 Cover with pinions six their face in the glory
 of him who
 Hung his masonry pendent on naught, when
 the world he created.
 Earth declareth his might, and the firmament
 uttereth his glory.
 Races blossom and die, and stars fall downward
 from heaven,
 Downward like withered leaves ; at the last
 stroke of midnight, millenniums
 Lay themselves down at his feet, and he sees
 them, but counts them as nothing.
 Who shall stand in his presence ! The wrath
 of the Judge is terrific,
 Casting the insolent down at a glance. When
 he speaks in his anger,
 Hillocks skip like the kid, and mountains leap
 like the roe-buck.
 Yet, why are ye afraid, ye children ? This
 awful avenger,
 Ah ! is a merciful God ! God's voice was not
 in the earthquake,
 Not in the fire nor the storm, but it was in the
 whispering breezes.
 Love is the root of creation, — God's essence ;
 worlds without number
 Lie in his bosom like children ; he made them
 for this purpose only.
 Only to love and to be loved again, he breathed
 forth his Spirit

Into the slumbering dust, and, upright standing,
 it laid its
Hand on its heart, and felt it was warm with a
 flame out of heaven.
Quench, O, quench not that flame! It is the
 breath of your being.
Love is life, but hatred is death. Not father,
 nor mother,
Loved you as God has loved you; for 't was
 that you may be happy
Gave he his only Son. When he bowed down
 his head in the death-hour,
Solemnized Love its triumph; the sacrifice then
 was completed.
Lo! then was rent on a sudden the veil of the
 temple, dividing
Earth and heaven apart; and the dead, from
 their sepulchres rising,
Whispered with pallid lips and low in the ears
 of each other
The answer, but dreamed of before, to crea-
 tion's enigma, — Atonement!
Depths of Love are Atonement's depths, for
 Love is Atonement.
Therefore, child of mortality, love thou the
 merciful Father;
Wish what the Holy One wishes, and not from
 fear, but affection; —
Fear is the virtue of slaves; but the heart that
 loveth is willing;
Perfect was, before God, and perfect is Love,
 and Love only.
Lovest thou God as thou oughtest, then lovest
 thou likewise thy brethren;
One is the sun in heaven, and one, only one,
 is Love also.
Bears not each human figure the godlike stamp
 on his forehead?
Readest thou not in his face thine origin? Is
 he not sailing,
Lost like thyself, on an ocean unknown, and is
 he not guided
By the same stars that guide thee? Why
 shouldst thou hate, then, thy brother?
Hateth he thee, forgive! For 't is sweet to
 stammer one letter
Of the Eternal's language; — on earth it is call-
 ed Forgiveness!
Knowest thou Him who forgave, with the
 crown of thorns round his temples?
Earnestly prayed for his foes, for his murder-
 ers! Say, dost thou know him?

Ah! thou confessest his name, so follow like-
 wise his example;
 Think of thy brother no ill, but throw a veil
 over his failings;
 Guide the erring aright; for the good, the
 heavenly Shepherd
 Took the lost lamb in his arms, and bore it
 back to its mother.
 This is the fruit of Love, and it is by its fruits
 that we know it.
 Love is the creature's welfare, with God; but
 Love among mortals
 Is but an endless sigh! He longs, and endures,
 and stands waiting,
 Suffers and yet rejoices, and smiles with tears
 on his eyelids.
 Hope, — so is called upon earth his recom-
 pense, — Hope, the befriending,
 Does what she can, for she points evermore up
 to heaven, and faithful
 Plunges her anchor's peak in the depths of the
 grave, and beneath it
 Paints a more beautiful world, a dim, but a
 sweet play of shadows!
 Races, better than we, have leaned on her
 wavering promise,
 Having naught else beside Hope. Then praise
 we our Father in heaven,
 Him who has given us more; for to us has
 Hope been illumined,
 Groping no longer in night; she is Faith, she
 is living assurance.
 Faith is enlightened Hope; she is light, is the
 eye of affection,
 Dreams of the longing interprets, and carves
 their visions in marble.
 Faith is the sun of life; and her countenance
 shines like the Prophet's,
 For she has looked upon God; the heaven on
 its stable foundation
 Draws she with chains down to earth, and the
 New Jerusalem sinketh
 Splendid with portals twelve in golden vapors
 descending.
 There enraptured she wanders, and looks at the
 figures majestic,
 Fears not the winged crowd; in the midst of
 them all is her homestead.
 Therefore love and believe; for works will
 follow spontaneous,
 Even as day does the sun; the Right from the
 Good is an offspring.

Love in a bodily shape ; and Christian works
are no more than
Animate Love and Faith, as flowers are the
animate springtide.
Works do follow us all unto God ; there stand
and bear witness
Not what they seemed, —but what they were,
only. Blessed is he who
Hears their confession secure ; they are mute
upon earth, until Death's hand
Opens the mouth of the silent. Ye children,
does Death e'er alarm you !
Death is the brother of Love, twin-brother is
he, and is only
More austere to behold. With a kiss upon lips
that are fading
Takes he the soul and departs, and, rocked in
the arms of affection,
Places the ransomed child, new-born, 'fore the
face of its Father.
Sounds of his coming already I hear, — see
dimly his pinions,
Swart as the night, but with stars strewn upon
them ! I fear not before him.
Death is only release, and in mercy is mute.
On his bosom
Freer breathes, in its coolness, my breast ; and,
face to face standing,
Look I on God as he is, a sun unpolluted by
vapors ;
Look on the light of the ages I loved, the spirits
majestic,
Nobler, better than I ; they stand by the throne
all transfigured,
Vested in white, and with harps of gold, and
are singing an anthem,
Writ in the climate of heaven, in the language
spoken by angels.
You, in like manner, ye children beloved, he
one day shall gather,
Never forgets he the weary ; — then welcome,
ye loved ones, hereafter !
Meanwhile forget not the keeping of vows,
forget not the promise ;
Wander from holiness onward to holiness ;
earth shall ye heed not ;
Earth is but dust, and heaven is light ; I have
pledged you to heaven.
God of the Universe, hear me ! thou Fountain
of Love everlasting,
Hark to the voice of thy servant ! I send up
my prayer to thy heaven !

Let me hereafter not miss at thy throne one
spirit of all these
Whom thou hast given me here ! I have loved
them all like a father.
May they bear witness for me, that I taught
them the way of salvation,
Faithful, so far as I knew of thy word ; again
may they know me,
Fall on their teacher's breast, and before thy
face may I place them
Pure as they now are, but only more tried, and
exclaiming with gladness,
' Father, lo ! I am here, and the children whom
thou hast given me ! ' "

Weeping, he spake in these words ; and now,
at the beck of the old man,
Knee against knee they knitted a wreath round
the altar's inclosure.
Kneeling, he read then the prayers of the con-
secration, and softly
With him the children read ; at the close, with
tremulous accents,
Asked he the peace of Heaven, a benediction
upon them. —
Now should have ended his task for the day ;
the following Sunday
Was for the young appointed to eat of the
Lord's holy Supper.
Sudden, as struck from the clouds, stood the
teacher silent, and laid his
Hand on his forehead, and cast his looks up-
ward ; while thoughts high and holy
Flew through the midst of his soul, and his
eyes glanced with wonderful brightness
" On the next Sunday, — who knows ! — per-
haps I shall rest in the grave-yard !
Some one perhaps of yourselves, a lily broke
untimely,
Bow down his head to the earth. Why delay
I ! The hour is accomplished ;
Warm is the heart. I will so ! for to-day
grows the harvest of heaven.
What I began accomplish I now ; for what
failing therein is
I, the old man, will answer to God and the
reverend father.
Say to me only, ye children, ye denizens new
come in heaven,
Are ye ready this day to eat of the bread
of Atonement ?
What it denoteth, that know ye full we

Of the new covenant a symbol it is, of Atonement a token,
 Established between earth and heaven. Man
 by his sins and transgressions
 Far has wandered from God, from his essence.
 'T was in the beginning
 Fast by the Tree of Knowledge he fell, and it
 hangs its crown o'er the
 Fall to this day; in the Thought is the Fall;
 in the Heart the Atonement.
 Infinite is the Fall, the Atonement infinite like-
 wise.
 See! behind me, as far as the old man remem-
 bers, and forward,
 Far as Hope in her flight can reach with her
 wearied pinions,
 Sin and Atonement incessant go through the
 lifetime of mortals.
 Brought forth is Sin full-grown; but Atonement
 sleeps in our bosoms,
 Still as the cradled babe; and dreams of heav-
 en and of angels,
 Cannot awake to sensation; is like the tones
 in the harp's strings,
 Spirits imprisoned, that wait evermore the deliv-
 erer's finger.
 Therefore, ye children beloved, descended the
 Prince of Atonement,
 Woke the slumberer from sleep, and she stands
 now with eyes all resplendent,
 Bright as the vault of the sky, and battles with
 Sin and o'ercomes her.
 Downward to earth he came and transfigured,
 thence reascended;
 Not from the heart in like wise, for there he
 still lives in the Spirit,
 Loves and atones evermore. So long as Time
 is, is Atonement.
 Therefore with reverence receive this day her
 visible token.
 Tokens are dead, if the things do not live. The
 light everlasting
 Unto the blind man is not, but is born of the
 eye that has vision.
 Neither in bread nor in wine, but in the heart
 that is hallowed,
 Lieth forgiveness enshrined; the intention alone
 of amendment
 Fruits of the earth ennobles to heavenly things,
 and removes all
 Sin and the guerdon of sin. Only Love with
 his arms wide extended,

Penitence weeping and praying, the Will that
 is tried, and whose gold flows
 Purified forth from the flames; in a word, man-
 kind by Atonement
 Breaketh Atonement's bread, and drinketh
 Atonement's wine-cup.
 But he who cometh up hither, unworthy, with
 hate in his bosom,
 Scoffing at men and at God, is guilty of Christ's
 blessed body
 And the Redeemer's blood! To himself he
 eateth and drinketh
 Death and doom! And from this preserve us,
 thou heavenly Father!
 Are ye ready, ye children, to eat of the bread
 of Atonement?"
 Thus with emotion he asked, and together an-
 swered the children,
 Yes! with deep sobs interrupted. Then read
 he the due supplications,
 Read the Form of Communion, and in chimed
 the organ and anthem:
 "O Holy Lamb of God, who takest away our
 transgressions,
 Hear us! give us thy peace! have mercy, have
 mercy upon us!"
 Th' old man, with trembling hand, and heav-
 enly pearls on his eyelids,
 Filled now the chalice and paten, and dealt
 round the mystical symbols.
 O, then seemed it to me as if God, with the
 broad eye of midday,
 Clearer looked in at the windows, and all the
 trees in the church-yard
 Bowed down their summits of green, and the
 grass on the graves 'gan to shiver!
 But in the children (I noted it well; I knew
 it) there ran a
 Tremor of holy rapture along through their
 icy-cold members.
 Decked like an altar before them, there stood
 the green earth, and above it
 Heaven opened itself, as of old before Stephen;
 there saw they
 Radiant in glory the Father, and on his right
 hand the Redeemer.
 Under them hear they the clang of harpstrings,
 and angels from gold clouds
 Beckon to them like brothers, and fan with
 their pinions of purple.

Closed was the teacher's task, and with

Up rose the children all, and each bowed him,
 weeping full sorely,
 Downward to kiss that reverend hand ; but all
 of them pressed he,

Moved, to his bosom, and laid, with a prayer,
 his hands full of blessings,
 Now on the holy breast, and now on the inno-
 cent treasures.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE VILLAGE BLACKSMITH.

UNDER a spreading chestnut-tree
 The village smithy stands ;
 The smith, a mighty man is he,
 With large and sinewy hands ;
 And the muscles of his brawny arms
 Are strong as iron bands.

His hair is crisp, and black, and long,
 His face is like the tan ;
 His brow is wet with honest sweat,
 He earns whate'er he can,
 And looks the whole world in the face,
 For he owes not any man.

Week in, week out, from morn till night,
 You can hear his bellows blow ;
 You can hear him swing his heavy sledge,
 With measured beat and slow,
 Like a sexton ringing the village bell,
 When the evening sun is low.

And children coming home from school
 Look in at the open door ;
 They love to see the flaming forge,
 And hear the bellows roar,
 And catch the burning sparks that fly
 Like chaff from a threshing-floor.

He goes on Sunday to the church,
 And sits among his boys ;
 He hears the parson pray and preach,
 He hears his daughter's voice,
 Singing in the village choir,
 And it makes his heart rejoice.

It sounds to him like her mother's voice,
 Singing in paradise !
 He needs must think of her once more,
 How in the grave she lies ;
 And with his hard, rough hand he wipes

Toiling, — rejoicing, — sorrowing,
 Onward through life he goes ;
 Each morning sees some task begin,
 Each evening sees it close ;
 Something attempted, something done,
 Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
 For the lesson thou hast taught !
 Thus at the flaming forge of life
 Our fortunes must be wrought ;
 Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
 Each burning deed and thought !

ENDYMION.

THE rising moon has hid the stars ;
 Her level rays, like golden bars,
 Lie on the landscape green,
 With shadows brown between.

And silver white the river gleams,
 As if Diana, in her dreams,
 Had dropped her silver bow
 Upon the meadows low.

On such a tranquil night as this,
 She woke Endymion with a kiss,
 When, sleeping in the grove,
 He dreamed not of her love.

Like Dian's kiss, unasked, unsought,
 Love gives itself, but is not bought ;
 Nor voice nor sound betrays
 Its deep, impassioned gaze.

It comes, — the beautiful, the free,
 The crown of all humanity, —
 In silence and alone

It lifts the boughs, whose shadows deep
 Are Life's oblivion, the soul's sleep,
 And kisses the closed eyes
 Of him who slumbering lies.

O weary hearts ! O slumbering eyes !
 O drooping souls, whose destinies
 Are fraught with fear and pain,
 Ye shall be loved again !

No one is so accursed by fate,
 No one so utterly desolate,
 But some heart, though unknown,
 Responds unto his own.

Responds, — as if, with unseen wings,
 An angel touched its quivering strings ;
 And whispers, in its song,
 " Where hast thou stayed so long ! "

THE TWO LOCKS OF HAIR.

FROM THE GERMAN OF PFIZER.

A YOUTH, light-hearted and content,
 I wander through the world ;
 Here, Arab-like, is pitched my tent,
 And straight again is furled.

Yet oft I dream that once a wife
 Close in my heart was locked,
 And in the sweet repose of life
 A blessed child I rocked.

I wake ! Away, that dream, — away !
 Too long did it remain !
 So long, that, both by night and day,
 It ever comes again.

The end lies ever in my thought ; —
 To a grave so cold and deep
 The mother beautiful was brought ;
 Then dropped the child asleep.

But now the dream is wholly o'er,
 I bathe mine eyes and see ;
 And wander through the world once more,
 A youth so light and free.

Two locks — and they are wondrous fair —
 Left me that vision mild ;
 The brown is from the mother's hair,

And when I see that lock of gold,
 Pale grows the evening-red ;
 And when the dark lock I behold,
 I wish that I were dead.

IT IS NOT ALWAYS MAY.

NO HAY PÁJAROS EN LOS NIDOS DE AÑTAÑO.
Spanish Proverb.

THE sun is bright, — the air is clear,
 The darting swallows soar and sing,
 And from the stately elms I hear
 The bluebird prophesying spring.

So blue yon winding river flows,
 It seems an outlet from the sky,
 Where, waiting till the west wind blows,
 The freighted clouds at anchor lie.

All things are new ; — the buds, the leaves
 That gild the elm-tree's nodding crest,
 And even the nest beneath the eaves ; —
 There are no birds in last year's nest !

All things rejoice in youth and love,
 The fulness of their first delight !
 And learn from the soft heavens above
 The melting tenderness of night.

Maiden, that read'st this simple rhyme,
 Enjoy thy youth, it will not stay ;
 Enjoy the fragrance of thy prime,
 For, O, it is not always May !

Enjoy the spring of love and youth,
 To some good angel leave the rest ;
 For time will teach thee soon the truth,
 There are no birds in last year's nest !

THE RAINY DAY.

THE day is cold, and dark, and dreary ;
 It rains, and the wind is never weary ;
 The vine still clings to the mouldering wall,
 But at every gust the dead leaves fall,
 And the day is dark and dreary.

My life is cold, and dark, and dreary ;
 It rains, and the wind is never weary ;
 My thoughts still cling to the mouldering past,
 But the hopes of youth fall thick in the blast,

Be still, sad heart ! and cease repining ;
 Behind the clouds is the sun still shining ;
 Thy fate is the common fate of all,
 Into each life some rain must fall,
 Some days must be dark and dreary.

GOD'S-ACRE.

I LIKE that ancient Saxon phrase, which calls
 The burial-ground God's-Acre ! It is just ;
 It consecrates each grave within its walls,
 And breathes a benison o'er the sleeping dust.

God's-Acre ! Yes, that blessed name imparts
 Comfort to those who in the grave have sown
 The seed that they had garnered in their hearts,
 Their bread of life, alas ! no more their own.

Into its furrows shall we all be cast,
 In the sure faith that we shall rise again
 At the great harvest, when the archangel's
 blast
 Shall winnow, like a fan, the chaff and grain.

Then shall the good stand in immortal bloom,
 In the fair gardens of that second birth ;
 And each bright blossom mingle its perfume
 With that of flowers which never bloomed
 on earth.

With thy rude ploughshare, Death, turn up the
 sod,
 And spread the furrow for the seed we sow ;
 This is the field and Acre of our God.
 This is the place where human harvests
 grow !

TO THE RIVER CHARLES.

RIVER ! that in silence windest
 Through the meadows, bright and free,
 Till at length thy rest thou findest
 In the bosom of the sea !

Four long years of mingled feeling,
 Half in rest and half in strife,
 I have seen thy waters stealing
 Onward, like the stream of life.

Thou hast taught me, Silent River !
 Many a lesson, deep and long ;
 Thou hast been a generous giver ;

Oft in sadness and in illness
 I have watched thy current glide,
 Till the beauty of its stillness
 Overflowed me, like a tide.

And in better hours and brighter,
 When I saw thy waters gleam,
 I have felt my heart beat lighter,
 And leap onward with thy stream.

Not for this alone I love thee,
 Nor because thy waves of blue
 From celestial seas above thee
 Take their own celestial hue.

Where yon shadowy woodlands hide thee,
 And thy waters disappear,
 Friends I love have dwelt beside thee,
 And have made thy margin dear.

More than this ; — thy name reminds me
 Of three friends, all true and tried ;
 And that name, like magic, binds me
 Closer, closer to thy side.

Friends my soul with joy remembers !
 How like quivering flames they start,
 When I fan the living embers
 On the hearth-stone of my heart !

'T is for this, thou Silent River !
 That my spirit leans to thee ;
 Thou hast been a generous giver,
 Take this idle song from me.

BLIND BARTIMEUS.

BLIND Bartimeus at the gates
 Of Jericho in darkness waits ;
 He hears the crowd ; — he hears a breath
 Say, " It is Christ of Nazareth ! "
 And calls, in tones of agony,
 Ἰησοῦ, ἐλέησόν με !

The thronging multitudes increase ;
 Blind Bartimeus, hold thy peace !
 But still, above the noisy crowd,
 The beggar's cry is shrill and loud ;
 Until they say, " He calleth thee ! "
 Θάρσει, ἔγειραι, φωνῇ σε !

Then saith the Christ, as silent stands

And he replies, "O, give me light !
 Rabbi, restore the blind man's sight !"
 And Jesus answers, "Παρε-
 ἤντισσόν σου σέσωκέ σε !"

Ye that have eyes, yet cannot see,
 In darkness and in misery,
 Recall those mighty voices three,
 Ἰησοῦ, ἐλέησόν μς !
 Θάρσει, ἔγειραι, ὕπαγε !
 ἤντισσόν σου σέσωκέ σε !

THE GOBLET OF LIFE.

FILLED is life's goblet to the brim ;
 And though my eyes with tears are dim,
 I see its sparkling bubbles swim,
 And chant a melancholy hymn
 With solemn voice and slow.

No purple flowers, no garlands green,
 Conceal the goblet's shade or sheen,
 Nor maddening draughts of Hippocrene,
 Like gleams of sunshine, flash between
 Thick leaves of mistletoe.

This goblet, wrought with curious art,
 Is filled with waters, that upstart
 When the deep fountains of the heart,
 By strong convulsions rent apart,
 Are running all to waste.

And as it mantling passes round,
 With fennel is it wreathed and crowned,
 Whose seed and foliage sun-imbrowned
 Are in its waters steeped and drowned,
 And give a bitter taste.

Above the lowly plants it towers,
 The fennel, with its yellow flowers,
 And in an earlier age than ours
 Was gifted with the wondrous powers
 Lost vision to restore.

It gave new strength, and fearless mood ;
 And gladiators, fierce and rude,
 Mingled it in their daily food ;
 And he who battled and subdued
 A wreath of fennel wore.

Then in life's goblet freely press

Nor prize the colored waters less,
 For in thy darkness and distress
 New light and strength they give !

And he who has not learned to know
 How false its sparkling bubbles show,
 How bitter are the drops of woe
 With which its brim may overflow,
 He has not learned to live.

The prayer of Ajax was for light ;
 Through all that dark and desperate fight,
 The blackness of that noonday night,
 He asked but the return of sight,
 To see his foeman's face.

Let our unceasing, earnest prayer
 Be, too, for light,—for strength to bear
 Our portion of the weight of care
 That crushes into dumb despair
 One half the human race.

O suffering, sad humanity !
 O ye afflicted ones, who lie
 Steeped to the lips in misery,
 Longing, and yet afraid, to die,
 Patient, though sorely tried !

I pledge you in this cup of grief,
 Where floats the fennel's bitter leaf !
 The battle of our life is brief,
 The alarm,—the struggle,—the relief,—
 Then sleep we side by side.

MAIDENHOOD.

MAIDEN ! with the meek, brown eyes,
 In whose orbs a shadow lies
 Like the dusk in evening skies !

Thou whose locks outshine the sun,
 Golden tresses, wreathed in one,
 As the braided streamlets run !

Standing, with reluctant feet,
 Where the brook and river meet,
 Womanhood and childhood fleet !

Gazing, with a timid glance,
 On the brooklet's swift advance,

Deep and still, that gliding stream
Beautiful to thee must seem,
As the river of a dream.

Then why pause with indecision,
When bright angels in thy vision
Beckon thee to fields Elysian?

Seest thou shadows sailing by,
As the dove, with startled eye,
Sees the falcon's shadow fly?

Hear'st thou voices on the shore,
That our ears perceive no more,
Deafened by the cataract's roar?

O thou child of many prayers!
Life hath quicksands, — life hath snares!
Care and age come unawares!

Like the swell of some sweet tune,
Morning rises into noon,
May glides onward into June.

Childhood is the bough, where slumbered
Birds and blossoms many-numbered; —
Age, that bough with snows encumbered.

Gather, then, each flower that grows
When the young heart overflows,
To embalm that tent of snows.

Bear a lily in thy hand;
Gates of brass cannot withstand
One touch of that magic wand.

Bear through sorrow, wrong, and ruth,
In thy heart the dew of youth,
On thy lips the smile of truth.

O, that dew, like balm, shall steal
Into wounds that cannot heal,
Even as sleep our eyes doth seal;

And that smile, like sunshine, dart
Into many a sunless heart,
For a smile of God thou art.

EXCELSIOR.

THE shades of night were falling fast,
As through an Alpine village passed

A youth, who bore, 'mid snow and ice,
A banner with the strange device,
Excelsior!

His brow was sad; his eye beneath
Flashed like a falchion from its sheath,
And like a silver clarion rung
The accents of that unknown tongue,
Excelsior!

In happy homes he saw the light
Of household fires gleam warm and bright;
Above, the spectral glaciers shone,
And from his lips escaped a groan,
Excelsior!

"Try not the pass!" the old man said;
"Dark lowers the tempest overhead,
The roaring torrent is deep and wide!"
And loud that clarion voice replied,
Excelsior!

"O, stay," the maiden said, "and rest
Thy weary head upon this breast!"
A tear stood in his bright blue eye,
But still he answered, with a sigh,
Excelsior!

"Beware the pine-tree's withered branch!
Beware the awful avalanche!"
This was the peasant's last good-night;
A voice replied, far up the height,
Excelsior!

At break of day, as heavenward
The pious monks of Saint Bernard
Uttered the oft-repeated prayer,
A voice cried through the startled air,
Excelsior!

A traveller, by the faithful hound,
Half-buried in the snow was found,
Still grasping in his hand of ice
That banner with the strange device,
Excelsior!

There, in the twilight cold and gray,
Lifeless, but beautiful, he lay,
And from the sky, serene and far,
A voice fell, like a falling star,
Excelsior!

POEMS ON SLAVERY.

[THE following poems, with the exception of the last, were written at sea, in the latter part of October, 1842. I had not then heard of Dr. Channing's death. Since that event, the poem addressed to him is no longer appropriate. I have decided, however, to let it remain as it was written, a feeble testimony of my admiration for a great and good man.]

TO WILLIAM E. CHANNING.

THE pages of thy book I read,
And, as I closed each one,
My heart, responding, ever said,
"Servant of God! well done!"

Well done! Thy words are great and bold;
At times they seem to me,
Like Luther's, in the days of old,
Half-battles for the free.

Go on, until this land revokes
The old and chartered Lie,
The feudal curse, whose whips and yokes
Insult humanity.

A voice is ever at thy side
Speaking in tones of might,
Like the prophetic voice that cried
To John in Patmos, "Write!"

Write! and tell out this bloody tale;
Record this dire eclipse,
This Day of Wrath, this Endless Wail,
This dread Apocalypse!

THE SLAVE'S DREAM.

BESIDE the ungathered rice he lay,
His sickle in his hand;
His breast was bare, his matted hair
Was buried in the sand.

Again, in the mist and shadow of sleep.

Wide through the landscape of his dreams
The lordly Niger flowed;
Beneath the palm-trees on the plain
Once more a king he strode;
And heard the tinkling caravans
Descend the mountain-road.

He saw once more his dark-eyed queen
Among her children stand;
They clasped his neck, they kissed his cheeks,
They held him by the hand! —
A tear burst from the sleeper's lids,
And fell into the sand.

And then at furious speed he rode
Along the Niger's bank;
His bridle-reins were golden chains,
And, with a martial clank,
At each leap he could feel his scabbard of steel
Smiting his stallion's flank.

Before him, like a blood-red flag,
The bright flamingoes flew;
From morn till night he followed their flight,
O'er plains where the tamarind grew,
Till he saw the roofs of Caffre huts,
And the ocean rose to view.

At night he heard the lion roar,
And the hyæna scream,
And the river-horse, as he crushed the reeds
Beside some hidden stream;
And it passed, like a glorious roll of drums,
Through the triumph of his dream.

The forests, with their myriad tongues,
Shouted of liberty;
And the Blast of the Desert cried aloud,
With a voice so wild and free,
That he started in his sleep and smiled
At their tempestuous glee.

He did not feel the driver's whip.

For Death had illumined the Land of Sleep,
And his lifeless body lay
A worn-out fetter, that the soul
Had broken and thrown away !

THE GOOD PART,

THAT SHALL NOT BE TAKEN AWAY.

SHE dwells by Great Kenhawa's side,
In valleys green and cool ;
And all her hope and all her pride
Are in the village school.

Her soul, like the transparent air
That robes the hills above,
Though not of earth, encircles there
All things with arms of love.

And thus she walks among her girls
With praise and mild rebukes ;
Subduing e'en rude village churls
By her angelic looks.

She reads to them at eventide
Of One who came to save ;
To cast the captive's chains aside,
And liberate the slave.

And oft the blessed time foretells
When all men shall be free ;
And musical, as silver bells,
Their falling chains shall be.

And following her beloved Lord,
In decent poverty,
She makes her life one sweet record
And deed of charity.

For she was rich, and gave up all
To break the iron bands
Of those who waited in her hall,
And labored in her lands.

Long since beyond the Southern Sea
Their outbound sails have sped,
While she, in meek humility,
Now earns her daily bread.

It is their prayers, which never cease,
That clothe her with such grace ;
Their blessing is the light of peace

THE SLAVE IN THE DISMAL SWAMP

In dark fens of the Dismal Swamp
The hunted Negro lay ;
He saw the fire of the midnight camp,
And heard at times a horse's tramp
And a bloodhound's distant bay.

Where will-o'-the-wisps and glowworms shine,
In bulrush and in brake ;
Where waving mosses shroud the pine,
And the cedar grows, and the poisonous vine
Is spotted like the snake ;

Where hardly a human foot could pass,
Or a human heart would dare,
On the quaking turf of the green morass
He crouched in the rank and tangled grass,
Like a wild beast in his lair.

A poor old slave, infirm and lame ;
Great scars deformed his face ;
On his forehead he bore the brand of shame,
And the rags, that hid his mangled frame,
Were the livery of disgrace.

All things above were bright and fair,
All things were glad and free ;
Lithe squirrels darted here and there,
And wild birds filled the echoing air
With songs of liberty !

On him alone was the doom of pain,
From the morning of his birth ;
On him alone the curse of Cain
Fell, like a flail on the garnered grain,
And struck him to the earth !

THE SLAVE SINGING AT MIDNIGHT

Loud he sang the psalm of David !
He, a Negro and enslaved,
Sang of Israel's victory,
Sang of Zion, bright and free.

In that hour, when night is calmest,
Sang he from the Hebrew Psalmist,
In a voice so sweet and clear
That I could not choose but hear,

Songs of triumph, and ascriptions,

When upon the Red Sea coast
Perished Pharaoh and his host.

And the voice of his devotion
Filled my soul with strange emotion ;
For its tones by turns were glad,
Sweetly solemn, wildly sad.

Paul and Silas, in their prison,
Sang of Christ, the Lord arisen,
And an earthquake's arm of might
Broke their dungeon-gates at night.

But, alas ! what holy angel
Brings the slave this glad evangel !
And what earthquake's arm of might
Breaks his dungeon-gates at night !

THE WITNESSES.

In Ocean's wide domains,
Half buried in the sands,
Lie skeletons in chains,
With shackled feet and hands.

Beyond the fall of dews,
Deeper than plummet lies,
Float ships, with all their crews,
No more to sink or rise.

There the black slave-ship swims,
Freighted with human forms,
Whose fettered, fleshless limbs
Are not the sport of storms.

These are the bones of slaves ;
They gleam from the abyss ;
They cry, from yawning waves,
" We are the Witnesses ! "

Within Earth's wide domains
Are markets for men's lives ;
Their necks are galled with chains,
Their wrists are cramped with gyves.

Dead bodies, that the kite
In deserts makes its prey ;
Murders, that with affright
Scare schoolboys from their play !

All evil thoughts and deeds ;
Anger, and lust, and pride ;
The foulest, rankest weeds,

These are the woes of slaves ;
They glare from the abyss ;
They cry, from unknown graves,
" We are the Witnesses ! "

THE QUADROON GIRL.

The slaver in the broad lagoon
Lay moored with idle sail ;
He waited for the rising moon,
And for the evening gale.

Under the shore his boat was tied,
And all her listless crew
Watched the gray alligator slide
Into the still bayou.

Odors of orange-flowers, and spice,
Reached them from time to time,
Like airs that breathe from paradise
Upon a world of crime.

The planter, under his roof of thatch,
Smoked thoughtfully and slow ;
The slaver's thumb was on the latch,
He seemed in haste to go.

He said, " My ship at anchor rides
In yonder broad lagoon ;
I only wait the evening tides,
And the rising of the moon. "

Before them, with her face upraised,
In timid attitude,
Like one half curious, half amazed,
A Quadroon maiden stood.

Her eyes were, like a falcon's, gray,
Her arms and neck were bare ;
No garment she wore save a kirtle gay,
And her own long, raven hair.

And on her lips there played a smile
As holy, meek, and faint,
As lights in some cathedral aisle
The features of a saint.

" The soil is barren, — the farm is old, "
The thoughtful planter said ;
Then looked upon the slaver's gold,

His heart within him was at strife
 With such accursed gains ;
 For he knew whose passions gave her life,
 Whose blood ran in her veins.

But the voice of nature was too weak ;
 He took the glittering gold !
 Then pale as death grew the maiden's cheek,
 Her hands as icy cold.

The slaver led her from the door,
 He led her by the hand,
 To be his slave and paramour
 In a strange and distant land !

THE WARNING.

BEWARE ! The Israelite of old, who tore
 The lion in his path,—when, poor and blind,

He saw the blessed light of heaven no more,
 Shorn of his noble strength and forced to grind
 In prison, and at last led forth to be
 A pander to Philistine revelry, —

Upon the pillars of the temple laid
 His desperate hands, and in its overthrow
 Destroyed himself, and with him those who
 made

A cruel mockery of his sightless woe ;
 The poor, blind slave, the scoff and jest of all,
 Expired, and thousands perished in the fall !

There is a poor, blind Samson in this land,
 Shorn of his strength, and bound in bonds of
 steel,

Who may, in some grim revel, raise his hand,
 And shake the pillars of this commonweal,
 Till the vast temple of our liberties
 A shapeless mass of wreck and rubbish lies.

THE SPANISH STUDENT.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

VICTORIAN, } *Students of Alcalá.*
HYPOLITO, }
THE COUNT OF LARA, } *Gentlemen of Madrid.*
DON CARLOS, }
THE ARCHBISHOP OF TOLEDO.
A CARDINAL.
BELTRAN CRUZADO, *Count of the Gypsies.*
BARTOLOMÉ ROMAN, *a young Gypsy.*
THE PADRE CURA OF GUADARRAMA.
PEDRO CRESPO, *Alcalde.*
PANTOJA, *Alguacil.*
FRANCISCO, *Lara's Servant.*
CHISPA, *Victorian's Servant.*
BALTAZAR, *Innkeeper.*
PRECIOSA, *a Gypsy Girl.*
ANGELICA, *a poor Girl.*
MARTINA, *the Padre Cura's Niece.*
DOLORES, *Preciosa's Maid.*
Gypsies, Musicians, &c.

ACT I.

SCENE I. *The COUNT OF LARA's chambers.*
Night. The COUNT in his dressing-gown,
smoking and conversing with DON CARLOS.

LARA.

You were not at the play to-night, Don Carlos;
How happened it?

DON CARLOS.

I had engagements elsewhere.
Pray who was there?

LARA.

Why, all the town and court.
The house was crowded; and the busy fans
Among the gaily dressed and perfumed ladies
Fluttered like butterflies among the flowers.
There was the Countess of Medina Celi;

Her Lindo Don Diego; Doña Sol,
And Doña Serafina, and her cousins.

DON CARLOS.

What was the play?

LARA.

It was a dull affair;
One of those comedies in which you see,
As Lope says, the history of the world
Brought down from Genesis to the Day of
Judgment.

There were three duels fought in the first act,
Three gentlemen receiving deadly wounds,
Laying their hands upon their hearts, and say-
ing,

"O, I am dead!" a lover in a closet,
An old hidalgo, and a gay Don Juan,
A Doña Inez with a black mantilla,
Followed at twilight by an unknown lover,
Who looks intently where he knows she is not!

DON CARLOS.

Of course, the Preciosa danced to-night?

LARA.

And never better. Every footstep fell
As lightly as a sunbeam on the water.
I think the girl extremely beautiful.

DON CARLOS.

Almost beyond the privilege of woman!
I saw her in the Prado yesterday.
Her step was royal, — queen-like, — and her
face
As beauteous as a saint's in paradise.

LARA.

May not a saint fall from her paradise,
And be no more a saint?

DON CARLOS.

Why do you ask?

LARA.

And, though she is a virgin outwardly,
Within she is a sinner; like those panels
Of doors and altar-pieces the old monks
Painted in convents, with the Virgin Mary
On the outside, and on the inside Venus!

DON CARLOS.

You do her wrong; indeed, you do her wrong!
She is as virtuous as she is fair.

LARA.

How credulous you are! Why, look you, friend,
There 's not a virtuous woman in Madrid,
In this whole city! And would you persuade me
That a mere dancing-girl, who shows herself,
Nightly, half-naked, on the stage, for money,
And with voluptuous motions fires the blood
Of inconsiderate youth, is to be held
A model for her virtue?

DON CARLOS.

You forget

She is a Gypsy girl.

LARA.

And therefore won
The easier.

DON CARLOS.

Nay, not to be won at all!
The only virtue that a Gypsy prizes
Is chastity. That is her only virtue.
Dearer than life she holds it. I remember
A Gypsy woman, a vile, shameless bawd,
Whose craft was to betray the young and fair;
And yet this woman was above all bribes.
And when a noble lord, touched by her beauty,
The wild and wizard beauty of her race,
Offered her gold to be what she made others,
She turned upon him, with a look of scorn,
And smote him in the face!

LARA.

And does that prove
That Preciosa is above suspicion?

DON CARLOS.

It proves a nobleman may be repulsed
When he thinks conquest easy. I believe
That woman, in her deepest degradation,
Holds something sacred, something undefiled,
Some pledge and keepsake of her higher nature,
And, like the diamond in the dark, retains

LARA.

Yet Preciosa would have taken the gold.

DON CARLOS (*rising*).

I do not think so.

LARA.

I am sure of it.
But why this haste? Stay yet a little longer,
And fight the battles of your Dulcinea.

DON CARLOS.

'T is late. I must begone, for if I stay
You will not be persuaded.

LARA.

Yes; persuade me.

DON CARLOS.

No one so deaf as he who will not hear!

LARA.

No one so blind as he who will not see!

DON CARLOS.

And so good night. I wish you pleasant dreams,
And greater faith in woman. [*Exit*]

LARA.

Greater faith!

I have the greatest faith; for I believe
Victorian is her lover. I believe
That I shall be to-morrow; and thereafter
Another, and another, and another,
Chasing each other through her zodiac,
As Taurus chases Aries.

(*Enter FRANCISCO with a casket.*)

Well, Francisco,

What speed with Preciosa?

FRANCISCO.

None, my lord.
She sends your jewels back, and bids me tell you
She is not to be purchased by your gold.

LARA.

Then I will try some other way to win her.
Pray, dost thou know Victorian?

FRANCISCO.

Yes, my lord;
I saw him at the jeweller's to-day.

LARA.

FRANCISCO.

I saw him buy
A golden ring, that had a ruby in it.

LARA.

Was there another like it?

FRANCISCO.

One so like it
I could not choose between them.

LARA.

It is well.
To-morrow morning bring that ring to me.
Do not forget. Now light me to my bed.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE II.

*A street in Madrid. Enter CHISPA, followed
by musicians, with a bagpipe, guitars, and
other instruments.*

CHISPA.

Abernuncio Satanas! and a plague on all
lovers who ramble about at night, drinking the
elements, instead of sleeping quietly in their
beds. Every dead man to his cemetery, say
I; and every friar to his monastery. Now,
here 's my master, Victorian, yesterday a cow-
keeper, and to-day a gentleman; yesterday a
student, and to-day a lover; and I must be up
later than the nightingale, for as the abbot
sings so must the sacristan respond. God
grant he may soon be married, for then shall
all this serenading cease. Ay, marry! marry!
marry! Mother, what does marry mean? It
means to spin, to bear children, and to weep,
my daughter! And, of a truth, there is some-
thing more in matrimony than the wedding-
ring. (*To the musicians.*) And now, gentle-
men, Pax vobiscum! as the ass said to the
cabbages. Pray, walk this way; and do n't
hang down your heads. It is no disgrace to
have an old father and a ragged shirt. Now,
look you, you are gentlemen who lead the life
of crickets; you enjoy hunger by day and
noise by night. Yet, I beseech you, for this
once be not loud, but pathetic; for it is a
serenade to a damsel in bed, and not to the
Man in the Moon. Your object is not to
arouse and terrify, but to soothe and bring
happiness. Therefore, each shall not play

in the universe, but gently, and with a certain
modesty, according with the others. Pray,
how may I call thy name, friend?

FIRST MUSICIAN.

Gerónimo Gil, at your service.

CHISPA.

Every tub smells of the wine that is in it.
Pray, Gerónimo, is not Saturday an unpleas-
ant day with thee?

FIRST MUSICIAN.

Why so?

CHISPA.

Because I have heard it said that Saturday
is an unpleasant day with those who have but
one shirt. Moreover, I have seen thee at the
tavern, and if thou canst run as fast as thou
canst drink, I should like to hunt hares with
thee. What instrument is that?

FIRST MUSICIAN.

An Aragonese bagpipe.

CHISPA.

Pray, art thou related to the bagpiper of
Bujalance, who asked a maravedí for playing,
and ten for leaving off?

FIRST MUSICIAN.

No, your honor.

CHISPA.

I am glad of it. What other instruments
have we?

SECOND AND THIRD MUSICIANS.

We play the bandurria.

CHISPA.

A pleasing instrument. And thou?

FOURTH MUSICIAN.

The fife.

CHISPA.

I like it; it has a cheerful, soul-stirring
sound, that soars up to my lady's window like
the song of a swallow. And you others?

OTHER MUSICIANS.

We are the singers, please your honor.

CHISPA.

going to sing mass in the cathedral of Córdova? Four men can make but little use of one shoe, and I see not how you can all sing in one song. But follow me along the garden-wall. That is the way my master climbs to the lady's window. It is by the vicar's skirts that the devil climbs into the belfry. Come, follow me, and make no noise. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE III.

PRECIOSA's chamber. She stands at the open window.

PRECIOSA.

How slowly through the lilac-scented air
Descends the tranquil moon! Like thistle-down
The vapory clouds float in the peaceful sky;
And sweetly from yon hollow vaults of shade
The nightingales breathe out their souls in song.
And hark! what songs of love, what soul-like
sounds,
Answer them from below!

SERENADE.

Stars of the summer night!
Far in yon azure deeps,
Hide, hide your golden light!
She sleeps!
My lady sleeps!
Sleeps!

Moon of the summer night!
Far down yon western steep,
Sink, sink in silver light!
She sleeps!
My lady sleeps!
Sleeps!

Wind of the summer night!
Where yonder woodbine creeps,
Fold, fold thy pinions light!
She sleeps!
My lady sleeps!
Sleeps!

Dreams of the summer night!
Tell her, her lover keeps
Watch! while in slumbers light
She sleeps!
My lady sleeps!
Sleeps!

(*Enter VICTORIAN by the balcony.*)

VICTORIAN.

PRECIOSA.

I am so frightened! 'T is for thee I tremble!
I hate to have thee climb that wall by night!
Did no one see thee?

VICTORIAN.

None, my love, but thou.

PRECIOSA.

'T is very dangerous; and when thou art gone
I chide myself for letting thee come here
Thus stealthily by night. Where hast thou
been?
Since yesterday I have no news from thee.

VICTORIAN.

Since yesterday I've been in Alcalá.
Ere long the time will come, sweet Preciosa,
When that dull distance shall no more divide
us;
And I no more shall scale thy wall by night
To steal a kiss from thee, as I do now.

PRECIOSA.

An honest thief, to steal but what thou givest.

VICTORIAN.

And we shall sit together unmolested,
And words of true love pass from tongue
to tongue,
As singing birds from one bough to another.

PRECIOSA.

That were a life indeed to make time envious!
I knew that thou wouldst visit me to-night.
I saw thee at the play.

VICTORIAN.

Sweet child of air!
Never did I behold thee so attired
And garmented in beauty as to-night!
What hast thou done to make thee look so fair!

PRECIOSA.

Am I not always fair?

VICTORIAN.

Ay, and so fair
That I am jealous of all eyes that see thee,
And wish that they were blind.

PRECIOSA.

I heed them no

VICTORIAN.

There 's nothing fair nor beautiful, but takes
Something from thee that makes it beautiful.

PRECIOSA.

And yet thou leavest me for those dusty books.

VICTORIAN.

Thou comest between me and those books too
often!

I see thy face in every thing I see!
The paintings in the chapel wear thy looks,
The canticles are changed to sarabands,
And with the learned doctors of the schools
I see thee dance cachuchas.

PRECIOSA.

In good sooth,
I dance with learned doctors of the schools
To-morrow morning.

VICTORIAN.

And with whom, I pray?

PRECIOSA.

A grave and reverend Cardinal, and his Grace
The Archbishop of Toledo.

VICTORIAN.

What mad jest

Is this?

PRECIOSA.

It is no jest; indeed it is not.

VICTORIAN.

Prithee, explain thyself.

PRECIOSA.

Why, simply thus.

Thou knowest the Pope has sent here into
Spain

To put a stop to dances on the stage.

VICTORIAN.

have heard it whispered.

PRECIOSA.

Now the Cardinal,
Who for this purpose comes, would fain behold
With his own eyes these dances; and the Arch-
bishop
has sent for me —

VICTORIAN.

Now viva la cachucha! It will breathe
The fire of youth into these gray old men!
'T will be thy proudest conquest!

PRECIOSA.

Saving one.

And yet I fear these dances will be stopped,
And Preciosa be once more a beggar.

VICTORIAN.

The sweetest beggar that e'er asked for alms;
With such beseeching eyes, that when I saw
thee
I gave my heart away!

PRECIOSA.

Dost thou remember

When first we met?

VICTORIAN.

It was at Córdoba,
In the cathedral garden. Thou wast sitting
Under the orange-trees, beside a fountain.

PRECIOSA.

'T was Easter-Sunday. The full-blossomed
trees

Filled all the air with fragrance and with joy.
The priests were singing, and the organ sound-
ed,

And then anon the great cathedral bell.

It was the elevation of the Host.

We both of us fell down upon our knees,
Under the orange-boughs, and prayed together.
I never had been happy till that moment.

VICTORIAN.

Thou blessed angel!

PRECIOSA.

And when thou wast gone
I felt an aching here. I did not speak
To any one that day. But from that day
Bartolomé grew hateful unto me.

VICTORIAN.

Remember him no more. Let not his shadow
Come between thee and me. Sweet Preciosa!
I loved thee even then, though I was silent!

PRECIOSA.

I thought I ne'er should see thy face again.
Thy farewell had a sound of sorrow in it.

VICTORIAN.

Scarce more than silence is, and yet a sound.
Hands of invisible spirits touch the strings
Of that mysterious instrument, the soul,
And play the prelude of our fate. We hear
The voice prophetic, and are not alone.

PRECIOSA.

That is my faith. Dost thou believe these
warnings?

VICTORIAN.

So far as this. Our feelings and our thoughts
Tend ever on, and rest not in the Present.
As drops of rain fall into some dark well,
And from below comes a scarce audible sound,
So fall our thoughts into the dark Hereafter,
And their mysterious echo reaches us.

PRECIOSA.

I have felt it so, but found no words to say it!
I cannot reason; I can only feel!
But thou hast language for all thoughts and
feelings.

Thou art a scholar; and sometimes I think
We cannot walk together in this world!
The distance that divides us is too great!
Henceforth thy pathway lies among the stars;
I must not hold thee back.

VICTORIAN.

Thou little skeptic!
Dost thou still doubt? What I most prize in
woman

Is her affections, not her intellect!
The intellect is finite; but the affections
Are infinite, and cannot be exhausted.
Compare me with the great men of the earth;
What am I? Why, a pigmy among giants!
But if thou lovest,—mark me! I say lovest,—
The greatest of thy sex excels thee not!
The world of the affections is thy world,
Not that of man's ambition. In that stillness
Which most becomes a woman, calm and holy,
Thou sittest by the fireside of the heart,
Feeding its flame. The element of fire
Is pure. It cannot change nor hide its nature,
But burns as brightly in a Gypsy camp
As in a palace hall. Art thou convinced?

PRECIOSA.

Yes, that I love thee, as the good love heaven;
Not that I am worthy of that heaven.

VICTORIAN.

Loving more.

PRECIOSA.

I cannot love thee more; my heart is full.

VICTORIAN.

Then let it overflow, and I will drink it,
As in the summer-time the thirsty sands
Drink the swift waters of a mountain torrent,
And still do thirst for more.

A WATCHMAN (*in the street*).

Ave, Maria
Purissima! 'Tis midnight and serene!

VICTORIAN.

Hear'st thou that cry?

PRECIOSA.

It is a hateful sound,
To scare thee from me!

VICTORIAN.

As the hunter's horn
Doth scare the timid stag, or bark of hounds
The moor-fowl from his mate.

PRECIOSA.

Pray, do not go!

VICTORIAN.

I must away to Alcalá to-night.
Think of me when I am away.

PRECIOSA.

Fear not!
I have no thoughts that do not think of thee.

VICTORIAN (*giving her a ring*).

And to remind thee of my love, take this;
A serpent, emblem of Eternity;
A ruby,—say, a drop of my heart's blood.

PRECIOSA.

It is an ancient saying, that the ruby
Brings gladness to the wearer, and preserves
The heart pure, and, if laid beneath the pillow,
Drives away evil dreams. But then, alas!
It was a serpent tempted Eve to sin.

VICTORIAN.

What convent of barefooted Carmelites
Taught thee so much theology?

PRECIOSA (*laying her hand upon his mouth*).

Good night! and may all holy angels guard thee!

VICTORIAN.

Good night! good night! Thou art my guardian angel!

I have no other saint than thou to pray to!
(*He descends by the balcony.*)

PRECIOSA.

Take care, and do not hurt thee. Art thou safe!

VICTORIAN (*from the garden*).

Safe as my love for thee! But art thou safe? Others can climb a balcony by moonlight As well as I. Pray, shut thy window close; I am jealous of the perfumed air of night That from this garden climbs to kiss thy lips.

PRECIOSA (*throwing down her handkerchief*).

Thou silly child! Take this to blind thine eyes. It is my benison!

VICTORIAN.

And brings to me
Sweet fragrance from thy lips, as the soft wind
Wafts to the out-bound mariner the breath
Of the beloved land he leaves behind.

PRECIOSA.

Make not thy voyage long.

VICTORIAN.

To-morrow night
Shall see me safe returned. Thou art the star
To guide me to an anchorage. Good night!
My beauteous star! My star of love, good
night!

PRECIOSA.

Good night!

WATCHMAN (*at a distance*).

Ave, Maria Purissima!

SCENE IV.

An inn on the road to Alcalá. BALTASAR
asleep on a bench. Enter CHISPA.

CHISPA.

And here we are, half way to Alcalá, ha-

an inn this is! The lights out, and the landlord asleep. Holá! ancient Baltasar!

BALTASAR (*waking*).

Here I am.

CHISPA.

Yes, there you are, like a one-eyed Alcalde in a town without inhabitants. Bring a light, and let me have supper.

BALTASAR.

Where is your master?

CHISPA.

Do not trouble yourself about him. We have stopped a moment to breathe our horses; and, if he chooses to walk up and down in the open air, looking into the sky as one who hears it rain, that does not satisfy my hunger, you know. But be quick, for I am in a hurry, and every man stretches his legs according to the length of his coverlet. What have we here?

BALTASAR (*setting a light on the table*).

Stewed rabbit.

CHISPA (*eating*).

Conscience of Portalegre! Stewed kitten, you mean!

BALTASAR.

And a pitcher of Pedro Ximenes, with a roasted pear in it.

CHISPA (*drinking*).

Ancient Baltasar, amigo! You know how to cry wine and sell vinegar. I tell you this is nothing but Vino Tinto of La Mancha, with a tang of the swine-skin.

BALTASAR.

I swear to you, by Saint Simon and Judas, it is all as I say.

CHISPA.

And I swear to you, by Saint Peter and Saint Paul, that it is no such thing. Moreover, your supper is like the hidalgo's dinner, very little meat, and a great deal of table-cloth.

BALTASAR.

CHISPA.

And more noise than nuts.

BALTASAR.

Ha! ha! ha! You must have your joke, Master Chispa. But shall I not ask Don Victorian in, to take a draught of the Pedro Ximenes!

CHISPA.

No; you might as well say, "Don't-you-want-some!" to a dead man.

BALTASAR.

Why does he go so often to Madrid?

CHISPA.

For the same reason that he eats no supper. He is in love. Were you ever in love, Baltasar?

BALTASAR.

I was never out of it, good Chispa. It has been the torment of my life.

CHISPA.

What! are you on fire, too, old haystack? Why, we shall never be able to put you out.

VICTORIAN (*without*).

Chispa!

CHISPA.

Go to bed, Pero Grullo, for the cocks are crowing.

VICTORIAN.

Ea! Chispa! Chispa!

CHISPA.

Ea! Señor. Come with me, ancient Baltasar, and bring water for the horses. I will pay for the supper to-morrow. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE V.

VICTORIAN's chambers at Alcalá. HYPOLITO asleep in an arm-chair. He awakes slowly.

HYPOLITO.

I must have been asleep! ay, sound asleep! And it was all a dream. O sleep, sweet sleep! Whatever form thou takest, thou art fair, Holding unto our lips thy goblet filled

The candles have burned low; it must be late
Where can Victorian be? Like Fray Carrill
The only place in which one cannot find him
Is his own cell. Here 's his guitar, that seldom
Feels the caresses of its master's hand.
Open thy silent lips, sweet instrument!
And make dull midnight merry with a song.

(*He plays and sings.*)

Padre Francisco!

Padre Francisco!

What do you want of Padre Francisco?

Here is a pretty young maiden

Who wants to confess her sins!

Open the door and let her come in,

I will shrive her from every sin.

(*Enter VICTORIAN.*)

VICTORIAN.

Padre Hypolito! Padre Hypolito!

HYPOLITO.

What do you want of Padre Hypolito?

VICTORIAN.

Come, shrive me straight; for, if love be a sin,
I am the greatest sinner that doth live.
I will confess the sweetest of all crimes,
A maiden wooed and won.

HYPOLITO.

The same old tale
Of the old woman in the chimney-corner,
Who, while the pot boils, says, "Come here,
my child;
I'll tell thee a story of my wedding-day."

VICTORIAN.

Nay, listen, for my heart is full; so full
That I must speak.

HYPOLITO.

Alas! that heart of thine
Is like a scene in the old play; the curtain
Rises to solemn music, and lo! enter
The eleven thousand virgins of Cologne!

VICTORIAN.

Nay, like the Sibyl's volumes, thou shouldst
say;
Those that remained, after the six were burned,
Being held more precious than the nine together.

The Gypsy girl we saw at Córdoba
Dance the Romalis in the market-place?

HYPOLITO.

Thou meanest Preciosa.

VICTORIAN.

Ay, the same.

Thou knowest how her image haunted me
Long after we returned to Alcalá.
She 's in Madrid.

HYPOLITO.

I know it.

VICTORIAN.

And I 'm in love.

HYPOLITO.

And therefore in Madrid when thou shouldst be
In Alcalá.

VICTORIAN.

O, pardon me, my friend,

If I so long have kept this secret from thee ;
But silence is the charm that guards such treasures,

And, if a word be spoken ere the time,
They sink again, they were not meant for us.

HYPOLITO.

Alas ! alas ! I see thou art in love.
Love keeps the cold out better than a cloak.
It serves for food and raiment. Give a Spaniard
His mass, his olla, and his Doña Luisa, —
Thou knowest the proverb. But pray tell me,
lover,

How speeds thy wooing ? Is the maiden coy ?
Write her a song, beginning with an *Ave* ?
Sing as the monk sang to the Virgin Mary,

*Ave ! cujus calcem clare
Nec centenni commendare
Sciret Seraph studio !*

VICTORIAN.

Pray, do not jest ! This is no time for it !
I am in earnest !

HYPOLITO.

Seriously enamoured ?

What, ho ! The Primus of great Alcalá
Enamoured of a Gypsy ? Tell me frankly,

VICTORIAN.

I mean it honestly.

HYPOLITO.

Surely thou wilt not marry her !

VICTORIAN.

Why not ?

HYPOLITO.

She was betrothed to one Bartolomé,
If I remember rightly, a young Gypsy
Who danced with her at Córdoba.

VICTORIAN.

They quarrelled,

And so the matter ended.

HYPOLITO.

But in truth

Thou wilt not marry her.

VICTORIAN.

In truth I will.

The angels sang in heaven when she was born !
She is a precious jewel I have found
Among the filth and rubbish of the world.
I 'll stoop for it ; but when I wear it here,
Set on my forehead like the morning star,
The world may wonder, but it will not laugh.

HYPOLITO.

If thou wear'st nothing else upon thy forehead,
'T will be indeed a wonder.

VICTORIAN.

Out upon thee,

With thy unseasonable jests ! Pray, tell me,
Is there no virtue in the world ?

HYPOLITO.

Not much.

What, think'st thou, is she doing at this moment ;

Now, while we speak of her ?

VICTORIAN.

She lies asleep,

And, from her parted lips, her gentle breath
Comes like the fragrance from the lips of flowers.

Her tender limbs are still, and, on her breast,
The cross she prayed to, ere she fell asleep,
Rises and falls with the soft tide of dreams,

HYPOLITO.

Which means, in prose,
She 's sleeping with her mouth a little open !

VICTORIAN.

O, would I had the old magician's glass
To see her as she lies in childlike sleep !

HYPOLITO.

And wouldst thou venture ?

VICTORIAN.

Ay, indeed I would !

HYPOLITO.

Thou art courageous. Hast thou e'er reflected
How much lies hidden in that one word, *now* ?

VICTORIAN.

Yes ; all the awful mystery of Life !
I oft have thought, my dear Hypolito,
That could we, by some spell of magic, change
The world and its inhabitants to stone,
In the same attitudes they now are in,
What fearful glances downward might we cast
Into the hollow chasms of human life !
What groups should we behold about the death-
bed,
Putting to shame the group of Niobe !
What joyful welcomes, and what sad farewells !
What stony tears in those congealed eyes !
What visible joy or anguish in those cheeks !
What bridal poms, and what funereal shows !
What foes, like gladiators, fierce and strug-
gling !
What lovers with their marble lips together !

HYPOLITO.

Ay, there it is ! and, if I were in love,
That is the very point I most should dread.
This magic glass, these magic spells of thine,
Might tell a tale were better left untold.
For instance, they might show us thy fair cou-
sin,
The Lady Violante, bathed in tears
Of love and anger, like the maid of Colchis,
Whom thou, another faithless Argonaut,
Having won that golden fleece, a woman's love,
Desertest for this Glaucè.

VICTORIAN.

Hold thy peace !

Or go into a convent, and, thus dying,
Marry Achilles in the Elysian Fields.

HYPOLITO (*rising*).

And so, good night ! Good morning, I should
say. (*Clock strikes three.*)

Hark ! how the loud and ponderous mace of
Time

Knocks at the golden portals of the day !

And so, once more, good night ! We 'll speak
more largely

Of Preciosa when we meet again.

Get thee to bed, and the magician, Sleep,

Shall show her to thee, in his magic glass,
In all her loveliness. Good night ! [*Exit.*]

VICTORIAN.

Good night !

But not to bed ; for I must read a while.

(*Throws himself into the arm-chair which HY-
POLITO has left, and lays a large book open
upon his knees.*)

Must read, or sit in reverie and watch

The changing color of the waves that break

Upon the idle seashore of the mind !

Visions of Fame ! that once did visit me,

Making night glorious with your smile, where
are ye !

O, who shall give me, now that ye are gone,

Juices of those immortal plants that bloom

Upon Olympus, making us immortal ?

Or teach me where that wondrous mandrake
grows

Whose magic root, torn from the earth with
groans,

At midnight hour, can scare the fiends away,

And make the mind prolific in its fancies ?

I have the wish, but want the will, to act !

Souls of great men departed ! Ye whose words

Have come to light from the swift river of
Time,

Like Roman swords found in the Tagus' bed,

Where is the strength to wield the arms ye
bore ?

From the barred visor of Antiquity

Reflected shines the eternal light of Truth,

As from a mirror ! All the means of action —

The shapeless masses, — the materials —

Lie everywhere about us. What we need

Is the celestial fire to change the flint

Into transparent crystal, bright and clear.

That fire is genius ! The rude peasant sit

With charcoal uncouth figures on the wall.
 The son of genius comes, foot-sore with travel,
 And begs a shelter from the inclement night.
 He takes the charcoal from the peasant's hand,
 And, by the magic of his touch at once
 Transfigured, all its hidden virtues shine,
 And, in the eyes of the astonished clown,
 It gleams a diamond! Even thus transformed,
 Rude popular traditions and old tales
 Shine as immortal poems, at the touch
 Of some poor, houseless, homeless, wandering
 bard,
 Who had but a night's lodging for his pains.
 But there are brighter dreams than those of
 Fame,
 Which are the dreams of Love! Out of the
 heart
 Rises the bright ideal of these dreams,
 As from some woodland fount a spirit rises
 And sinks again into its silent deeps,
 Ere the enamoured knight can touch her robe!
 'T is this ideal that the soul of man,
 Like the enamoured knight beside the fountain,
 Waits for upon the margin of Life's stream;
 Waits to behold her rise from the dark waters,
 Clad in a mortal shape! Alas! how many
 Must wait in vain! The stream flows ever-
 more,
 But from its silent deeps no spirit rises!
 Yet I, born under a propitious star,
 Have found the bright ideal of my dreams.
 Yes! she is ever with me. I can feel,
 Here, as I sit at midnight and alone,
 Her gentle breathing! on my breast can feel
 The pressure of her head! God's benison
 Rest ever on it! Close those beauteous eyes,
 Sweet Sleep! and all the flowers that bloom
 at night
 With balmy lips breathe in her ears my name!
 (Gradually sinks asleep.)

— ♦ —
 ACT II.

SCENE I. PRECIOSA'S chamber. Morning.
 PRECIOSA and ANGELICA.

PRECIOSA.

WHY will you go so soon? Stay yet awhile.
 The poor too often turn away unheard
 From hearts that shut against them with a
 sound

Of your adversities. Keep nothing from me.
 What is your landlord's name?

ANGELICA.

The Count of Lara.

PRECIOSA.

The Count of Lara! O, beware that man!
 Mistrust his pity, — hold no parley with him!
 And rather die an outcast in the streets
 Than touch his gold.

ANGELICA.

You know him, then!

PRECIOSA.

As much

As any woman may, and yet be pure.
 As you would keep your name without a blem-
 ish,
 Beware of him!

ANGELICA.

Alas! what can I do!

I cannot choose my friends. Each word of
 kindness,
 Come whence it may, is welcome to the poor.

PRECIOSA.

Make me your friend. A girl so young and fair
 Should have no friends but those of her own
 sex.
 What is your name?

ANGELICA.

Angelica.

PRECIOSA.

That name

Was given you, that you might be an angel
 To her who bore you! When your infant smile
 Made her home paradise, you were her angel.
 O, be an angel still! She needs that smile.
 So long as you are innocent, fear nothing.
 No one can harm you! I am a poor girl,
 Whom chance has taken from the public streets.
 I have no other shield than mine own virtue.
 That is the charm which has protected me!
 Amid a thousand perils, I have worn it
 Here on my heart! It is my guardian angel.

ANGELICA *(rising)*.

PRECIOSA.

Thank me by following it.

ANGELICA.

Indeed I will.

PRECIOSA.

Pray, do not go. I have much more to say.

ANGELICA.

My mother is alone. I dare not leave her.

PRECIOSA.

Some other time, then, when we meet again.

You must not go away with words alone.

(Gives her a purse.)

Take this. Would it were more.

ANGELICA.

I thank you, lady.

PRECIOSA.

No thanks. To-morrow come to me again.

I dance to-night, — perhaps for the last time.

But what I gain, I promise shall be yours,

If that can save you from the Count of Lara.

ANGELICA.

O, my dear lady! how shall I be grateful
For so much kindness?

PRECIOSA.

I deserve no thanks.

Thank Heaven, not me.

ANGELICA.

Both Heaven and you.

PRECIOSA.

Farewell!

Remember that you come again to-morrow.

ANGELICA.

I will. And may the blessed Virgin guard you,
And all good angels. *[Exit.]*

PRECIOSA.

May they guard thee, too,
And all the poor; for they have need of angels.
Now bring me, dear Dolores, my basquiña,
My richest maja dress, — my dancing dress,
And my most precious jewels! Make me look
irer than night e'er saw me! I've a prize

(Enter BELTRAN CRUZADO.)

CRUZADO.

Ave Maria!

PRECIOSA.

O God! my evil genius!

What seekest thou here to-day?

CRUZADO.

Thyself, — my child.

PRECIOSA.

What is thy will with me?

CRUZADO.

Gold! gold!

PRECIOSA.

I gave thee yesterday; I have no more.

CRUZADO.

The gold of the Busné, — give me his gold!

PRECIOSA.

I gave the last in charity to-day.

CRUZADO.

That is a foolish lie.

PRECIOSA.

It is the truth.

CRUZADO.

Curses upon thee! Thou art not my child!
Hast thou given gold away, and not to me?
Not to thy father! To whom, then?

PRECIOSA.

To one

Who needs it more.

CRUZADO.

No one can need it more.

PRECIOSA.

Thou art not poor.

CRUZADO.

What, I, who lurk about
In dismal suburbs and unwholesome lanes;
I, who am housed worse than the galley slave;
I, who am fed worse than the kennelled hound;
I, who am clothed in rags, — Beltran Cruza
do, —

PRECIOSA.

Thou hast a stout heart and strong hands.
Thou canst supply thy wants; what wouldst
thou more!

CRUZADO.

The gold of the Busné! give me his gold!

PRECIOSA.

Beltran Cruzado! hear me once for all.
I speak the truth. So long as I had gold,
I gave it to thee freely, at all times,
Never denied thee; never had a wish
But to fulfil thine own. Now go in peace!
Be merciful, be patient, and, ere long,
Thou shalt have more.

CRUZADO.

And if I have it not,
Thou shalt no longer dwell here in rich cham-
bers,
Wear silken dresses, feed on dainty food,
And live in idleness; but go with me,
Dance the Romalis in the public streets,
And wander wild again o'er field and fell;
For here we stay not long.

PRECIOSA.

What! march again?

CRUZADO.

Ay, with all speed. I hate the crowded town!
I cannot breathe shut up within its gates!
Air,— I want air, and sunshine, and blue sky,
The feeling of the breeze upon my face,
The feeling of the turf beneath my feet,
And no walls but the far-off mountain-tops.
Then I am free and strong,— once more my-
self,
Beltran Cruzado, Count of the Calés!

PRECIOSA.

God speed thee on thy march! — I cannot go.

CRUZADO.

Remember who I am, and who thou art!
Be silent and obey! Yet one thing more.
Bartolomé Román —

PRECIOSA (*with emotion*).

O, I beseech thee!

If my obedience and blameless life,
If my humility and meek submission

One feeling of compassion; if thou art
Indeed my father, and canst trace in me
One look of her who bore me, or one tone
That doth remind thee of her, let it plead
In my behalf, who am a feeble girl,
Too feeble to resist, and do not force me
To wed that man! I am afraid of him!
I do not love him! On my knees I beg thee
To use no violence, nor do in haste
What cannot be undone!

CRUZADO.

O child, child, child!

Thou hast betrayed thy secret, as a bird
Betrays her nest, by striving to conceal it.
I will not leave thee here in the great city
To be a grandee's mistress. Make thee ready
To go with us; and until then remember
A watchful eye is on thee. [Exit.

PRECIOSA.

Woe is me!

I have a strange misgiving in my heart!
But that one deed of charity I'll do,
Befall what may; they cannot take that from
me. [Exit.

SCENE II.

*A room in the ARCHBISHOP'S palace. The
ARCHBISHOP and a CARDINAL seated.*

ARCHBISHOP.

Knowing how near it touched the public morals,
And that our age is grown corrupt and rotten
By such excesses, we have sent to Rome,
Beseeching that his Holiness would aid
In curing the gross surfeit of the time,
By seasonable stop put here in Spain
To bull-fights and lewd dances on the stage.
All this you know.

CARDINAL.

Know and approve.

ARCHBISHOP.

And farther,

That, by a mandate from his Holiness,
The first have been suppressed.

CARDINAL.

I trust for ever

ARCHBISHOP.

A barbarous pastime,
Disgraceful to the land that calls itself
Most Catholic and Christian.

CARDINAL.

Yet the people
Murmur at this ; and, if the public dances
Should be condemned upon too slight occasion,
Worse ills might follow than the ills we cure.
As *Panem et Circenses* was the cry
Among the Roman populace of old,
So *Pan y Toros* is the cry in Spain.
Hence I would act advisedly herein ;
And therefore have induced your grace to see
These national dances, ere we interdict them.

(*Enter a servant.*)

SERVANT.

The dancing-girl, and with her the musicians
Your grace was pleased to order, wait without.

ARCHBISHOP.

Bid them come in. Now shall your eyes behold
In what angelic yet voluptuous shape
The Devil came to tempt Saint Anthony.

(*Enter PRECIOSA, with a mantle thrown over
her head. She advances slowly, in a modest,
half-timid attitude.*)

CARDINAL (*aside*).

O, what a fair and ministering angel
Was lost to heaven when this sweet woman
fell !

PRECIOSA (*kneeling before the ARCHBISHOP*).

I have obeyed the order of your grace.
If I intrude upon your better hours,
I proffer this excuse, and here beseech
Your holy benediction.

ARCHBISHOP.

May God bless thee,
And lead thee to a better life. Arise.

CARDINAL (*aside*).

Her acts are modest, and her words discreet !
I did not look for this ! Come hither, child.
Is thy name Preciosa ?

PRECIOSA.

Thus I am called.

CARDINAL.

PRECIOSA.

Beltran Cruzado, Count of the Calés.

ARCHBISHOP.

I have a dim remembrance of that man ;
He was a bold and reckless character,
A sunburnt Ishmael !

CARDINAL.

Dost thou remember
Thy earlier days ?

PRECIOSA.

Yes ; by the Darro's side
My childhood passed. I can remember still
The river, and the mountains capped with
snow ;

The villages, where, yet a little child,
I told the traveller's fortune in the street ;
The smuggler's horse, the brigand, and the
shepherd ;

The march across the moor ; the halt at noon ;
The red fire of the evening camp, that lighted
The forest where we slept ; and, farther back,
As in a dream or in some former life,
Gardens and palace-walls.

ARCHBISHOP.

'T is the Alhambra,
Under whose towers the Gypsy camp was
pitched.
But the time wears ; and we would see thee
dance.

PRECIOSA.

Your grace shall be obeyed.

(*She lays aside her mantilla. The music of the
cachucha is played, and the dance begins. The
ARCHBISHOP and the CARDINAL look on with
gravity and an occasional frown ; then make
signs to each other ; and, as the dance con-
tinues, become more and more pleased and
excited ; and at length rise from their seats,
throw their caps in the air, and applaud
vehemently as the scene closes.*)

SCENE III.

*The Prado. A long avenue of trees leading to
the gate of Atocha. On the right the dome
and spires of a convent. A fountain in the
background. Don Carlos and Hernando*

DON CARLOS.

Hola ! good evening, Don Hypolito.

HYPOLITO.

And a good evening to my friend, Don Carlos.
Some lucky star has led my steps this way.
I was in search of you.

DON CARLOS.

Command me always.

HYPOLITO.

Do you remember, in Quevedo's Dreams,
The miser, who, upon the Day of Judgment,
Asks if his money-bags would rise ?

DON CARLOS.

I do ;

But what of that ?

HYPOLITO.

I am that wretched man.

DON CARLOS.

You mean to tell me yours have risen empty ?

HYPOLITO.

And amen ! said the Cid Campeador.

DON CARLOS.

Pray, how much need you ?

HYPOLITO.

Some half dozen ounces.

Which, with due interest —

DON CARLOS (*giving his purse*).

What, am I a Jew

To put my moneys out at usury ?

Here is my purse.

HYPOLITO.

Thank you. A pretty purse,

Made by the hand of some fair Madrileña ;

Perhaps a keepsake.

DON CARLOS.

No, 't is at your service.

HYPOLITO.

Thank you again. Lie there, good Saint Chrysostom,

And with thy golden mouth remind me often,

DON CARLOS.

But tell me,

Come you to-day from Alcalá ?

HYPOLITO.

This moment.

DON CARLOS.

And pray, how fares the brave Victorian ?

HYPOLITO.

Indifferent well ; that is to say, not well.

A damsel has ensnared him with the glances
Of her dark, roving eyes, as herdsmen catch
A steer of Andalusia with a lazo.

He is in love.

DON CARLOS.

And is it faring ill

To be in love ?

HYPOLITO.

In his case very ill.

DON CARLOS.

Why so ?

HYPOLITO.

For many reasons. First and foremost,
Because he is in love with an ideal ;
A creature of his own imagination ;
A child of air ; an echo of his heart ;
And, like a lily on a river floating,
She floats upon the river of his thoughts !

DON CARLOS.

A common thing with poets. But who is
This floating lily ? For, in fine, some woman,
Some living woman, — not a mere ideal, —
Must wear the outward semblance of his
thought.

Who is it ? Tell me.

HYPOLITO.

Well, it is a woman !

But, look you, from the coffer of his heart
He brings forth precious jewels to adorn her,
As pious priests adorn some favorite saint
With gems and gold, until at length she gleams
One blaze of glory. Without these, you know,
And the priest's benediction, 't is a doll.

DON CARLOS.

HYPOLITO.

Why, who do you think ?

DON CARLOS.

His cousin Violante.

HYPOLITO.

Guess again.

To ease his laboring heart, in the last storm
He threw her overboard, with all her ingots.

DON CARLOS.

I cannot guess ; so tell me who it is.

HYPOLITO.

Not I.

DON CARLOS.

Why not ?

HYPOLITO (*mysteriously*).

Why ? Because Mari Franca
Was married four leagues out of Salamanca !

DON CARLOS.

Jesting aside, who is it ?

HYPOLITO.

Preciosa.

DON CARLOS.

Impossible ! The Count of Lara tells me
She is not virtuous.

HYPOLITO.

Did I say she was ?

The Roman Emperor Claudius had a wife
Whose name was Messalina, as I think ;
Valeria Messalina was her name.
But hist ! I see him yonder through the trees,
Walking as in a dream.

DON CARLOS.

He comes this way.

HYPOLITO.

It has been truly said by some wise man,
That money, grief, and love cannot be hidden.

(*Enter VICTORIAN in front.*)

VICTORIAN.

Where'er thy step has passed is holy ground !
These groves are sacred ! I behold thee walk-
ing

Under these shadowy trees, where we have

At evening, and I feel thy presence now ;
Feel that the place has taken a charm from
thee,
And is for ever hallowed.

HYPOLITO.

Mark him well !

See how he strides away with lordly air,
Like that odd guest of stone, that grim Com-
mander

Who comes to sup with Juan in the play.

DON CARLOS.

What ho ! Victorian !

HYPOLITO.

Wilt thou sup with us ?

VICTORIAN.

Holá ! amigos ! Faith, I did not see you.
How fares Don Carlos ?

DON CARLOS.

At your service ever.

VICTORIAN.

How is that young and green-eyed Gaditana
That you both wot of ?

DON CARLOS.

Ay, soft, emerald eyes
She has gone back to Cadiz.

HYPOLITO.

Ay de mí !

VICTORIAN.

You are much to blame for letting her go back.
A pretty girl ; and in her tender eyes
Just that soft shade of green we sometimes see
In evening skies.

HYPOLITO.

But, speaking of green eyes
Are thine green ?

VICTORIAN.

Not a whit. Why so ?

HYPOLITO.

The slightest shade of green would be become
ing,
For thou art jealous.

VICTORIAN.

HYPOLITO.

Thou shouldst be.

VICTORIAN.

Why?

HYPOLITO.

Because thou art in love.
And they who are in love are always jealous.
Therefore thou shouldst be.

VICTORIAN.

Marry, is that all?

Farewell; I am in haste. Farewell, Don Carlos.

Thou sayest I should be jealous!

HYPOLITO.

Ay, in truth

I fear there is reason. Be upon thy guard.
I hear it whispered that the Count of Lara
Lays siege to the same citadel.

VICTORIAN.

Indeed!

Then he will have his labor for his pains.

HYPOLITO.

He does not think so, and Don Carlos tells me
He boasts of his success.

VICTORIAN.

How 's this, Don Carlos?

DON CARLOS.

Some hints of it I heard from his own lips.
He spoke but lightly of the lady's virtue,
As a gay man might speak.

VICTORIAN.

Death and damnation!

'I'll cut his lying tongue out of his mouth,
and throw it to my dog! But no, no, no!
This cannot be. You jest, indeed you jest.
Trifle with me no more. For otherwise
We are no longer friends. And so, farewell!

[Exit.

HYPOLITO.

Now what a coil is here! The Avenging Child
Hunting the traitor Quadros to his death,
and the great Moor Calaynos, when he rode
to Paris for the ears of Oliver,
Were nothing to him! O hot-headed youth!

The crowd that pours into the Prado. There
We shall find merrier company; I see
The Marialonzos and the Almagivas,
And fifty fans that beckon me already.

[Exeunt.

SCENE IV.

PRECIOSA's chamber. *She is sitting, with a
book in her hand, near a table, on which are
flowers. A bird singing in its cage. The
COUNT OF LARA enters behind unperceived.*

PRECIOSA (reads).

All are sleeping, weary heart!

Thou, thou only, sleepless art!

Heigh-ho! I wish Victorian were here.

I know not what it is makes me so restless!

(*The bird sings.*)

Thou little prisoner with thy motley coat,
That from thy vaulted, wiry dungeon singest,
Like thee I am a captive, and, like thee,
I have a gentle jailer. Lack-a-day!

All are sleeping, weary heart!

Thou, thou only, sleepless art!

All this throbbing, all this aching,

Evermore shall keep thee waking,

For a heart in sorrow breaking

Thinketh ever of its smart!

Thou speakest truly, poet! and methinks
More hearts are breaking in this world of ours
Than one would say. In distant villages
And solitudes remote, where winds have wafted
The barbed seeds of love, or birds of passage
Scattered them in their flight, do they take
root,

And grow in silence, and in silence perish.

Who hears the falling of the forest leaf?

Or who takes note of every flower that dies?

Heigh-ho! I wish Victorian would come.

Dolores!

(*Turns to lay down her book, and perceives the
COUNT.*)

Ha!

LARA.

Señora, pardon me!

PRECIOSA.

How 's this? Dolores!

LARA.

PRECIOSA.

Dolores !

LARA.

Be not alarmed ; I found no one in waiting.
If I have been too bold ——

PRECIOSA (*turning her back upon him*).

You are too bold !

Retire ! retire, and leave me !

LARA.

My dear lady,

First hear me ! I beseech you, let me speak !
'T is for your good I come.

PRECIOSA (*turning toward him with indignation*).

Begone ! Begone !

You are the Count of Lara, but your deeds
Would make the statues of your ancestors
Blush on their tombs ! Is it Castilian honor,
Is it Castilian pride, to steal in here
Upon a friendless girl, to do her wrong ?
O, shame ! shame ! shame ! that you, a noble-
man,

Should be so little noble in your thoughts
As to send jewels here to win my love,
And think to buy my honor with your gold !
I have no words to tell you how I scorn you !
Begone ! The sight of you is hateful to me !
Begone, I say !

LARA.

Be calm ; I will not harm you.

PRECIOSA.

Because you dare not.

LARA.

I dare any thing !

Therefore beware ! You are deceived in me.
In this false world, we do not always know
Who are our friends and who our enemies.
We all have enemies, and all need friends.
Even you, fair Preciosa, here at court
Have foes, who seek to wrong you.

PRECIOSA.

If to this

I owe the honor of the present visit,
You might have spared the coming. Having
spoken,

LARA.

I thought it but a friendly part to tell you
What strange reports are current here in town.
For my own self, I do not credit them ;
But there are many who, not knowing you,
Will lend a readier ear.

PRECIOSA.

There was no need

That you should take upon yourself the duty
Of telling me these tales.

LARA.

Malicious tongues

Are ever busy with your name.

PRECIOSA.

Alas !

I have no protectors. I am a poor girl,
Exposed to insults and unfeeling jests.
They wound me, yet I cannot shield myself.
I give no cause for these reports. I live
Retired ; am visited by none.

LARA.

By none ?

O, then, indeed, you are much wronged !

PRECIOSA.

How mean you ?

LARA.

Nay, nay ; I will not wound your gentle soul
By the report of idle tales.

PRECIOSA.

Speak out !

What are these idle tales ? You need not
spare me.

LARA.

I will deal frankly with you. Pardon me ;
This window, as I think, looks toward the
street,
And this into the Prado, does it not ?
In yon high house, beyond the garden wall,
You see the roof there just above the trees,
There lives a friend, who told me yesterday,
That on a certain night — be not offended
If I too plainly speak — he saw a man
Climb to your chamber-window. You are
lent !

I would not blame you, being young and
fair ——

(*He tries to embrace her. She starts back,*

PRECIOSA.

Beware! beware! I am a Gypsy girl!
Lay not your hand upon me. One step nearer
And I will strike!

LARA.

Pray you, put up that dagger.

Fear not.

PRECIOSA.

I do not fear. I have a heart
In whose strength I can trust.

LARA.

Listen to me.

I come here as your friend, — I am your
friend, —

And by a single word can put a stop
To all those idle tales, and make your name
Spotless as lilies are. Here on my knees,
Fair Preciosa! on my knees I swear,
I love you even to madness, and that love
Has driven me to break the rules of custom,
And force myself unasked into your presence.

(VICTORIAN enters behind.)

PRECIOSA.

Rise, Count of Lara! That is not the place
For such as you are. It becomes you not
To kneel before me. I am strangely moved
To see one of your rank thus low and humbled;
For your sake I will put aside all anger,
All unkind feeling, all dislike, and speak
In gentleness, as most becomes a woman,
And as my heart now prompts me. I no more
Will hate you, for all hate is painful to me.
But if, without offending modesty
And that reserve which is a woman's glory,
I may speak freely, I will teach my heart
To love you.

LARA.

O sweet angel!

PRECIOSA.

Ay, in truth,
Far better than you love yourself or me.

LARA.

Give me some sign of this, — the slightest
token.

Let me but kiss your hand!

PRECIOSA.

The words I utter are its sign and token.
Misunderstand me not! Be not deceived!
The love wherewith I love you is not such
As you would offer me. For you came here
To take from me the only thing I have,
My honor. You are wealthy, you have friends
And kindred, and a thousand pleasant hopes
That fill your heart with happiness; but I
Am poor, and friendless, having but one treas-
ure,
And you would take that from me, and for
what?

To flatter your own vanity, and make me
What you would most despise. O Sir, such
love,

That seeks to harm me, cannot be true love.
Indeed it cannot. But my love for you
Is of a different kind. It seeks your good.
It is a holier feeling. It rebukes
Your earthly passion, your unchaste desires,
And bids you look into your heart, and see
How you do wrong that better nature in you,
And grieve your soul with sin.

LARA.

I swear to you,
I would not harm you; I would only love you.
I would not take your honor, but restore it,
And in return I ask but some slight mark
Of your affection. If indeed you love me,
As you confess you do, O, let me thus
With this embrace —

VICTORIAN (*rushing forward*).

Hold! hold! This is too much.
What means this outrage?

LARA.

First, what right have you
To question thus a nobleman of Spain?

VICTORIAN.

I too am noble, and you are no more!
Out of my sight!

LARA.

Are you the master here?

VICTORIAN.

Ay, here and elsewhere, when the wrong of
others
Gives me the right!

PRECIOSA (*to Lara*).

VICTORIAN.

I shall have business with you, Count, anon !

LARA.

You cannot come too soon ! *[Exit.]*

PRECIOSA.

Victorian !

O, we have been betrayed !

VICTORIAN.

Ha ! ha ! betrayed !

'T is I have been betrayed, not we ! — not we !

PRECIOSA.

Dost thou imagine —

VICTORIAN.

I imagine nothing ;

I see how 't is thou whilst the time away
When I am gone !

PRECIOSA.

O, speak not in that tone !

It wounds me deeply.

VICTORIAN.

'T was not meant to flatter.

PRECIOSA.

Too well thou knowest the presence of that man
Is hateful to me !

VICTORIAN.

Yet I saw thee stand

And listen to him, when he told his love.

PRECIOSA.

I did not heed his words.

VICTORIAN.

Indeed thou didst,

And answeredst them with love.

PRECIOSA.

Hadst thou heard all —

VICTORIAN.

I heard enough.

PRECIOSA.

Be not so angry with me.

VICTORIAN.

I am not angry ; I am very calm.

PRECIOSA.

VICTORIAN.

Nay, say no more.

I know too much already. Thou art false !

I do not like these Gypsy marriages !

Where is the ring I gave thee !

PRECIOSA.

In my casket.

VICTORIAN.

There let it rest ! I would not have thee wear
it !

I thought thee spotless, and thou art polluted !

PRECIOSA.

I call the Heavens to witness —

VICTORIAN.

Nay, nay, nay !

Take not the name of Heaven upon thy lips !
They are forsworn !

PRECIOSA.

Victorian ! dear Victorian !

VICTORIAN.

I gave up all for thee ; myself, my fame,
My hopes of fortune, ay, my very soul !
And thou hast been my ruin ! Now, go on !
Laugh at my folly with thy paramour,
And, sitting on the Count of Lara's knee,
Say what a poor, fond fool Victorian was !

(He casts her from him and rushes out.)

PRECIOSA.

And this from thee !

(Scene closes.)

SCENE V.

The COUNT OF LARA'S rooms. Enter the
COUNT.

LARA.

There 's nothing in this world so sweet as love
And next to love the sweetest thing is hate !
I 've learned to hate, and therefore am re-
venged.

A silly girl to play the prude with me !
The fire that I have kindled —

(Enter FRANCISCO.)

Well, Fran

* FRANCISCO.

He will be present.

Good, my lord ;

LARA.

And the Duke of Lermos ?

FRANCISCO.

Was not at home.

LARA.

How with the rest ?

FRANCISCO.

I 've found

The men you wanted. They will all be there,
And at the given signal raise a whirlwind
Of such discordant noises, that the dance
Must cease for lack of music.

LARA.

Bravely done.

Ah ! little dost thou dream, sweet Preciosa,
What lies in wait for thee. Sleep shall not
close

Thine eyes this night ! Give me my cloak and
sword.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE VI.

*A retired spot beyond the city gates. Enter
VICTORIAN and HYPOLITO.*

VICTORIAN.

O, shame ! O, shame ! Why do I walk abroad
By daylight, when the very sunshine mocks me,
And voices, and familiar sights and sounds,
Cry, " Hide thyself " ! O, what a thin partition
Doth shut out from the curious world the
knowledge
Of evil deeds that have been done in darkness !
Disgrace has many tongues. My fears are
windows,
Through which all eyes seem gazing. Every
face
Expresses some suspicion of my shame,
And in derision seems to smile at me !

HYPOLITO.

Did I not caution thee ? Did I not tell thee
I was but half persuaded of her virtue ?

VICTORIAN.

We may be over-hasty in condemning !
The Count of Lara is a cursed villain.

HYPOLITO.

And therefore is she cursed, loving him.

VICTORIAN.

She does not love him ! 'T is for gold ! for
gold !

HYPOLITO.

Ay, but remember, in the public streets
He shows a golden ring the Gypsy gave him,
A serpent with a ruby in its mouth.

VICTORIAN.

She had that ring from me ! God ! she is false !
But I will be revenged ! The hour is passed.
Where stays the coward ?

HYPOLITO.

Nay, he is no coward ;
A villain, if thou wilt, but not a coward.
I 've seen him play with swords ; it is his pas-
time.

And therefore be not over-confident ;
He 'll task thy skill anon. Look, here he comes.

(*Enter LARA, followed by FRANCISCO.*)

LARA.

Good evening, gentlemen.

HYPOLITO.

Good evening, Count.

LARA.

I trust I have not kept you long in waiting.

VICTORIAN.

Not long, and yet too long. Are you prepared ?

LARA.

I am.

HYPOLITO.

It grieves me much to see this quarrel
Between you, gentlemen. Is there no way
Left open to accord this difference,
But you must make one with your swords ?

VICTORIAN.

No ! none !

I do entreat thee, dear Hypolito,
Stand not between me and my foe. Too long
Our tongues have spoken. Let these tongues

End our debate. Upon your guard, Sir Count!
(They fight. VICTORIAN disarms the COUNT.)
 Your life is mine; and what shall now with-
 hold me
 From sending your vile soul to its account?

LARA.

Strike! strike!

VICTORIAN.

You are disarmed. I will not kill you.
 I will not murder you. Take up your sword.
*(FRANCISCO hands the COUNT his sword, and
 HYPOLITO interposes.)*

HYPOLITO.

Enough! Let it end here! The Count of Lara
 Has shown himself a brave man, and Victorian
 A generous one, as ever. Now be friends.
 Put up your swords; for, to speak frankly to
 you,
 Your cause of quarrel is too slight a thing
 To move you to extremes.

LARA.

I am content.
 I sought no quarrel. A few hasty words,
 Spoken in the heat of blood, have led to this.

VICTORIAN.

Nay, something more than that.

LARA.

I understand you.
 Therein I did not mean to cross your path.
 To me the door stood open, as to others.
 But had I known the girl belonged to you,
 Never would I have sought to win her from
 you.
 The truth stands now revealed; she has been
 false
 To both of us.

VICTORIAN.

Ay, false as hell itself!

LARA.

In truth I did not seek her; she sought me;
 And told me how to win her, telling me
 The hours when she was oftenest left alone.

VICTORIAN.

Say, can you prove this to me? O, pluck out
 These awful doubts, that goad me into mad-
 ness!

LARA.

You shall know all.

Here is my page, who was the messenger
 Between us. Question him. Was it not so,
 Francisco?

FRANCISCO.

Ay, my lord.

LARA.

If farther proof
 Is needful, I have here a ring she gave me.

VICTORIAN.

Pray let me see that ring! It is the same!
*(Throws it upon the ground and tramples up-
 on it.)*

Thus may she perish who once wore that ring!
 Thus do I spurn her from me; do thus trample
 Her memory in the dust! O Count of Lara,
 We both have been abused, been much abused!
 I thank you for your courtesy and frankness.
 Though, like the surgeon's hand, yours gave
 me pain,
 Yet it has cured my blindness, and I thank you.
 I now can see the folly I have done,
 Though 't is, alas! too late. So fare you well!
 To-night I leave this hateful town for ever.
 Regard me as your friend. Once more, fare
 well!

HYPOLITO.

Farewell, Sir Count.

[Exeunt VICTORIAN and HYPOLITO.]

LARA.

Farewell! farewell!
 Thus have I cleared the field of my worst foe!
 I have none else to fear; the fight is done,
 The citadel is stormed, the victory won!

[Exit with FRANCISCO.]

SCENE VII.

*A lane in the suburbs. Night. Enter CRUZADO
 and BARTOLOMÉ.*

CRUZADO.

And so, Bartolomé, the expedition failed.
 But where wast thou for the most part?

BARTOLOMÉ.

In the Guadarrama mountains, near San

CRUZADO.

And thou bringest nothing back with thee?
Didst thou rob no one?

BARTOLOMÉ.

There was no one to rob, save a party of students from Segovia, who looked as if they would rob us; and a jolly little friar, who had nothing in his pockets but a missal and a loaf of bread.

CRUZADO.

Pray, then, what brings thee back to Madrid?

BARTOLOMÉ.

First, tell me what keeps thee here?

CRUZADO.

Preciosa.

BARTOLOMÉ.

And she brings me back. Hast thou forgotten thy promise?

CRUZADO.

The two years are not passed yet. Wait patiently. The girl shall be thine.

BARTOLOMÉ.

I hear she has a Busné lover.

CRUZADO.

That is nothing.

BARTOLOMÉ.

I do not like it. I hate him,—the son of a Busné harlot. He goes in and out, and speaks with her alone, and I must stand aside, and wait his pleasure.

CRUZADO.

Be patient, I say. Thou shalt have thy revenge. When the time comes, thou shalt waylay him.

BARTOLOMÉ.

Meanwhile, show me her house.

CRUZADO.

Come this way. But thou wilt not find her. She dances at the play to-night.

BARTOLOMÉ.

SCENE VIII.

The Theatre. The orchestra plays the cachucha. Sound of castanets behind the scenes. The curtain rises, and discovers PRECIOSA in the attitude of commencing the dance. The cachucha. Tumult; hisses; cries of "Brava!" and "¡Fuera!" She falters and pauses. The music stops. General confusion. PRECIOSA faints.

SCENE IX.

The Count of LARA's chambers. LARA and his friends at supper.

LARA.

So, Caballeros, once more many thanks!
You have stood by me bravely in this matter.
Pray fill your glasses.

DON JUAN.

Did you mark, Don Luis,
How pale she looked, when first the noise began,
And then stood still, with her large eyes dilated!
Her nostrils spread! her lips apart her bosom
Tumultuous as the sea!

DON LUIS.

I pitied her.

LARA.

Her pride is humbled; and this very night
I mean to visit her.

DON JUAN.

Will you serenade her?

LARA.

No music! no more music!

DON LUIS.

Why not music?

It softens many hearts.

LARA.

Not in the humor
She now is in. Music would madden her.

DON JUAN.

Try golden cymbals.

DON LUIS.

Yes try Don Dinero;

LARA.

To tell the truth, then, I have bribed her maid.
But, Caballeros, you dislike this wine.
A bumper and away; for the night wears.
A health to Preciosa!

(*They rise and drink.*)

ALL.

Preciosa.

LARA (*holding up his empty glass*).

Thou bright and flaming minister of Love!
Thou wonderful magician! who hast stolen
My secret from me, and 'mid sighs of passion
Caught from my lips, with red and fiery tongue,
Her precious name! O, never more henceforth
Shall mortal lips press thine; and never more
A mortal name be whispered in thine ear.
Go! keep my secret!

(*Dashes the goblet down.*)

DON JUAN.

It! missa est!

(*Scene closes.*)

SCENE X.

Street and garden-wall. Night. Enter CRUZADO and BARTOLOMÉ.

CRUZADO.

This is the garden-wall, and above it, yonder, is her house. The window in which thou seest the light is her window. But we will not go in now.

BARTOLOMÉ.

Why not?

CRUZADO.

Because she is not at home.

BARTOLOMÉ.

No matter; we can wait. But how is this? The gate is bolted. (*Sound of guitars and voices in a neighbouring street.*) Hark! There comes her lover with his cursed serenade! Hark!

SONG.

Good night! Good night, beloved!

I come to watch o'er thee!

To be near thee, to be near thee,

Thine eyes are stars of morning,
Thy lips are crimson flowers!
Good night! Good night, beloved,
While I count the weary hours.

CRUZADO.

They are not coming this way.

BARTOLOMÉ.

Wait, they begin again.

SONG (*coming nearer*).

Ah! thou moon that shinest
Argent-clear above!
All night long enlighten
My sweet lady-love!
Moon that shinest,
All night long enlighten!

BARTOLOMÉ.

Woe be to him if he comes this way!

CRUZADO.

Be quiet, they are passing down the street.

SONG (*dying away*).

The nuns in the cloister
Sang to each other;
For so many sisters
Is there not one brother!
Ay, for the partridge, mother!
The cat has run away with the partridge!
Puss! puss! puss!

BARTOLOMÉ.

Follow that! follow that! Come with me.
Puss! puss!

(*Exeunt. On the opposite side enter the COUNT OF LARA and gentlemen, with FRANCISCO.*)

LARA.

The gate is fast. Over the wall, Francisco,
And draw the bolt. There, so, and so, and over.

Now, gentlemen, come in, and help me scale
Yon balcony. How now? Her light still burns.
Move warily. Make fast the gate, Francisco.

(*Exeunt. Reënter CRUZADO and BARTOLOMÉ.*)

BARTOLOMÉ.

They went in at the gate. Hark! I hear them in the garden. (*Tries the gate.*) Bolted again! Vive Cristo! Follow me over the wall.

SCENE XI.

PRECIOSA'S *bed-chamber. Midnight. She is sleeping in an arm-chair, in an undress. DOLORES watching her.*

DOLORES.

She sleeps at last!

(*Opens the window and listens.*)

All silent in the street,

And in the garden. Hark!

PRECIOSA (*in her sleep*).

I must go hence!

Give me my cloak!

DOLORES.

He comes! I hear his footsteps!

PRECIOSA.

Go tell them that I cannot dance to-night;
I am too ill! Look at me! See the fever
That burns upon my cheek! I must go hence.
I am too weak to dance.

(*Signal from the garden.*)

DOLORES (*from the window*).

Who's there?

VOICE (*from below*).

A friend.

DOLORES.

I will undo the door. Wait till I come.

PRECIOSA.

I must go hence. I pray you do not harm me!
Shame! shame! to treat a feeble woman thus!
Be you but kind, I will do all things for you.
I'm ready now, — give me my castanets.
Where is Victorian! O, those hateful lamps!
They glare upon me like an evil eye.
I cannot stay. Hark! how they mock at me!
They hiss at me like serpents! Save me!
save me! (*She wakes.*)

How late is it, Dolores!

DOLORES.

It is midnight.

PRECIOSA.

We must be patient. Smooth this pillow for me.

(*She sleeps again. Noise from the garden, and voices.*)

VOICE.

ANOTHER VOICE.

O villains! villains!

LARA.

So! have at you!

VOICE.

Take that!

LARA.

O, I am wounded!

DOLORES (*shutting the window*).

Jesu Maria!



ACT III.

SCENE I. *A cross-road through a wood.*

In the back-ground a distant village spire.

VICTORIAN and HYPOLITO, *as travelling students, with guitars, sitting under the trees.*

HYPOLITO *plays and sings.*

SONG.

Ah, Love!

Perjured, false, treacherous Love!

Enemy

Of all that mankind may not rue!

Most untrue

To him who keeps most faith with thee.

Woe is me!

The falcon has the eyes of the dove.

Ah, Love!

Perjured, false, treacherous Love!

VICTORIAN.

Yes, Love is ever busy with his shuttle,
Is ever weaving into life's dull warp
Bright, gorgeous flowers and scenes Arcadian;
Hanging our gloomy prison-house about
With tapestries, that make its walls dilate
In never-ending vistas of delight.

HYPOLITO.

Thinking to walk in those Arcadian pastures,
Thou hast run thy noble head against the wall.

SONG (*continued*).

Thy deceits

Give us clearly to comprehend

Whither tend

All thy pleasures, all thy sweets!

They are cheats, —

Thorns below, and flowers above.

Ah, Love!

VICTORIAN.

A very pretty song. I thank thee for it.

HYPOLITO.

It suits thy case.

VICTORIAN.

Indeed, I think it does.

What wise man wrote it?

HYPOLITO.

Lopez Maldonado.

VICTORIAN.

In truth, a pretty song.

HYPOLITO.

With much truth in it.

I hope thou wilt profit by it, and in earnest
Try to forget this lady of thy love.

VICTORIAN.

I will forget her! All dear recollections
Pressed in my heart, like flowers within a book,
Shall be torn out, and scattered to the winds!
I will forget her! But perhaps hereafter,
When she shall learn how heartless is the
world,

A voice within her will repeat my name,
And she will say, "He was indeed my friend!"
O, would I were a soldier, not a scholar,
That the loud march, the deafening beat of
drums,

The shattering blast of the brass-throated trum-
pet,

The din of arms, the onslaught and the storm,
And a swift death, might make me deaf for ever
To the upbraids of this foolish heart!

HYPOLITO.

Then let that foolish heart upbraid no more!
To conquer love, one need but will to conquer.

VICTORIAN.

Yet, good Hypolito, it is in vain
I throw into Oblivion's sea the sword
That pierces me; for, like Excalibar,
With gemmed and flashing hilt, it will not sink.
There rises from below a hand that grasps it,
And waves it in the air; and wailing voices
Are heard along the shore.

HYPOLITO.

And yet at last

This is not well. In truth, it vexes me.
Instead of whistling to the steeds of Time,
To make them jog on merrily with life's bur-
den,
Like a dead weight thou hangest on the wheels.
Thou art too young, too full of lusty health,
To talk of dying.

VICTORIAN.

Yet I fain would die!

To go through life, unloving and unloved;
To feel that thirst and hunger of the soul
We cannot still; that longing, that wild im-
pulse,
And struggle after something we have not
And cannot have; the effort to be strong;
And, like the Spartan boy, to smile, and smile,
While secret wounds do bleed beneath our
cloaks;
All this the dead feel not, — the dead alone!
Would I were with them!

HYPOLITO.

We shall all be soon.

VICTORIAN.

It cannot be too soon; for I am weary
Of the bewildering masquerade of Life,
Where strangers walk as friends, and friends
as strangers;
Where whispers overheard betray false hearts;
And through the mazes of the crowd we chase
Some form of loveliness, that smiles, and
beckons,
And cheats us with fair words, only to leave us
A mockery and a jest; maddened, — con-
fused, —
Not knowing friend from foe.

HYPOLITO.

Why seek to know?
Enjoy the merry shrovetide of thy youth!
Take each fair mask for what it gives itself,
Nor strive to look beneath it.

VICTORIAN.

I confess,
That were the wiser part. But Hope no longer
Comforts my soul. I am a wretched man,
Much like a poor and shipwrecked mariner,
Who, struggling to climb up into the boat,
Has both his bruised and bleeding hands cut off
And sinks again into the weltering sea,

HYPOLITO.

Yet thou shalt not perish.

The strength of thine own arm is thy salvation.
Above thy head, through rifted clouds, there
shines

A glorious star. Be patient. Trust thy star!

(Sound of a village bell in the distance.)

VICTORIAN.

Ave Maria! I hear the sacristan
Ringing the chimes from yonder village belfry!
A solemn sound, that echoes far and wide
Over the red roofs of the cottages,
And bids the laboring hind afield, the shep-
herd,

Guarding his flock, the lonely muleteer,
And all the crowd in village streets, stand still,
And breathe a prayer unto the blessed Virgin!

HYPOLITO.

Amen! amen! Not half a league from hence
The village lies.

VICTORIAN.

This path will lead us to it,
Over the wheat-fields, where the shadows sail
Across the running sea, now green, now blue,
And, like an idle mariner on the main,
Whistles the quail. Come, let us hasten on.

[Exeunt.]

SCENE II.

Public square in the village of Guadarrama. The Ave Maria still tolling. A crowd of villagers, with their hats in their hands, as if in prayer. In front, a group of Gypsies. The bell rings a merrier peal. A Gypsy dance. Enter PANCHO, followed by PEDRO CRESPO.

PANCHO.

Make room, ye vagabonds and Gypsy thieves!
Make room for the Alcalde and for me!

PEDRO CRESPO.

Keep silence all! I have an edict here
From our most gracious lord, the King of
Spain,
Jerusalem, and the Canary Islands,
Which I shall publish in the market-place.
Open your ears and listen!

Padre Cura,

Good day! and, pray you, hear this edict read.

PADRE CURA.

Good day, and God be with you! Pray, what
is it?

PEDRO CRESPO.

An act of banishment against the Gypsies!

(Agitation and murmurs in the crowd.)

PANCHO.

Silence!

PEDRO CRESPO *(reads)*.

"I hereby order and command,
That the Egyptian and Chaldean strangers
Known by the name of Gypsies shall hence-
forth

Be banished from the realm, as vagabonds
And beggars; and if, after seventy days,
Any be found within our kingdom's bounds,
They shall receive a hundred lashes each;
The second time, shall have their ears cut off;
The third, be slaves for life to him who takes
them,

Or burnt as heretics. Signed, I, the King."
Vile miscreants and creatures unbaptized!
You hear the law! Obey and disappear!

PANCHO.

And if in seventy days you are not gone,
Dead or alive I make you all my slaves.

(The Gypsies go out in confusion, showing signs of fear and discontent. PANCHO follows.)

PADRE CURA.

A righteous law! A very righteous law!
Pray you, sit down.

PEDRO CRESPO.

I thank you heartily.

(They seat themselves on a bench at the Padre Cura's door. Sound of guitars heard at a distance, approaching during the dialogue which follows.)

A very righteous judgment, as you say.
Now tell me, Padre Cura, — you know all
things, —
How came these Gypsies into Spain?

PADRE CURA.

And hence are thieves and vagrants, Sir Al-
calde,

As the Simoniacs from Simon Magus.
And, look you, as Fray Jayme Bleda says
There are a hundred marks to prove a Moor
Is not a Christian, so 't is with the Gypsies.
They never marry, never go to mass,
Never baptize their children, nor keep Lent,
Nor see the inside of a church, — nor — nor —

PEDRO CRESPO.

Good reasons, good, substantial reasons all !
No matter for the other ninety-five.
They should be burnt, I see it plain enough,
They should be burnt.

(Enter VICTORIAN and HYPOLITO playing.)

PADRE CURA.

And pray, whom have we here ?

PEDRO CRESPO.

More vagrants ! By Saint Lazarus, more va-
grants !

HYPOLITO.

Good evening, gentlemen ! Is this Guadar-
rama ?

PADRE CURA.

Yes, Guadarrama, and good evening to you.

HYPOLITO.

We seek the Padre Cura of the village ;
And, judging from your dress and reverend
mien,
You must be he.

PADRE CURA.

I am. Pray, what 's your pleasure ?

HYPOLITO.

We are poor students, travelling in vacation.
You know this mark ?

(Touching the wooden spoon in his hat-band.)

PADRE CURA (*joyfully*).

Ay, know it, and have worn it.

PEDRO CRESPO (*aside*).

Soup-eaters ! by the mass ! The worst of va-
grants !

And there 's no law against them. Sir, your
servant.

HYPOLITO.

Padre Cura,

From the first moment I beheld your face,
I said within myself, " This is the man ! "
There is a certain something in your looks,
A certain scholar-like and studious some-
thing, —
You understand, — which cannot be mistaken ;
Which marks you as a very learned man,
In fine, as one of us.

VICTORIAN (*aside*).

What impudence !

HYPOLITO.

As we approached, I said to my companion,
" That is the Padre Cura ; mark my words ! "
Meaning your Grace. " The other man," said I,
" Who sits so awkwardly upon the bench,
Must be the sacristan."

PADRE CURA.

Ah ! said you so ?

Why, that was Pedro Crespo, the Alcalde !

HYPOLITO.

Indeed ! you much astonish me ! His air
Was not so full of dignity and grace
As an alcalde's should be.

PADRE CURA.

That is true.

He is out of humor with some vagrant Gypsies.
Who have their camp here in the neighbour-
hood.

There is nothing so undignified as anger.

HYPOLITO.

The Padre Cura will excuse our boldness,
If, from his well-known hospitality,
We crave a lodging for the night.

PADRE CURA.

I pray you !

You do me honor ! I am but too happy
To have such guests beneath my humble roof.
It is not often that I have occasion
To speak with scholars ; and *Emollit mores,*
Nec sinit esse ferus, Cicero says.

HYPOLITO.

'T is Ovid, is it not ?

PADRE CURA.

PADRE CURA.

HYPOLITO.

Your Grace is right. You are the better scholar.

Now what a dunce was I to think it Ovid !
But hang me if it is not ! (*Aside.*)

PADRE CURA.

Pass this way.

He was a very great man, was Cicero !
Pray you, go in, go in ! no ceremony.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE III.

A room in the PADRE CURA's house. Enter the PADRE and HYPOLITO.

PADRE CURA.

So then, Señor, you come from Alcalá.
I am glad to hear it. It was there I studied.

HYPOLITO.

And left behind an honored name, no doubt.
How may I call your Grace ?

PADRE CURA.

Gerónimo

De Santillana, at your Honor's service.

HYPOLITO.

Descended from the Marquis Santillana ?
From the distinguished poet ?

PADRE CURA.

From the Marquis,

Not from the poet.

HYPOLITO.

Why, they were the same.

Let me embrace you ! O, some lucky star
Has brought me hither ! Yet once more ! —
once more !

Your name is ever green in Alcalá,
And our professor, when we are unruly,
Will shake his hoary head, and say, " Alas !
It was not so in Santillana's time ! "

PADRE CURA.

I did not think my name remembered there.

HYPOLITO.

More than remembered ; it is idolized.

PADRE CURA.

HYPOLITO.

Timoneda.

PADRE CURA.

I do n't remember any Timoneda.

HYPOLITO.

A grave and sombre man, whose beetling brow
O'erhangs the rushing current of his speech
As rocks o'er rivers hang. Have you forgotten ?

PADRE CURA.

Indeed I have. O, those were pleasant days,
Those college days ! I ne'er shall see the like !
I had not buried then so many hopes !
I had not buried then so many friends !
I've turned my back on what was then before
me ;

And the bright faces of my young companions
Are wrinkled like my own, or are no more.
Do you remember Cueva ?

HYPOLITO.

Cueva ! Cueva !

PADRE CURA.

Fool that I am ! He was before your time.
You're a mere boy, and I am an old man.

HYPOLITO.

I should not like to try my strength with you.

PADRE CURA.

Well, well. But I forget ; you must be hungry.
Martina ! ho ! Martina ! 'T is my niece.

(*Enter MARTINA.*)

HYPOLITO.

You may be proud of such a niece as that.
I wish I had a niece. *Emollit mores.* (*Aside.*)
He was a very great man, was Cicero !
Your servant, fair Martina.

MARTINA.

Servant, Sir.

PADRE CURA.

This gentleman is hungry. See thou to it.
Let us have supper.

MARTINA.

'T will be ready soon.

PADRE CURA.

And bring a bottle of my Val-de-Peñas
Out of the cellar. Stay : I'll go myself

HYPOLITO.

Hist! Martina!

One word with you. Bless me! what handsome eyes!

To-day there have been Gypsies in the village. Is it not so?

MARTINA.

There have been Gypsies here.

HYPOLITO.

Yes, and they told your fortune.

MARTINA (*embarrassed*).

Told my fortune?

HYPOLITO.

Yes, yes; I know they did. Give me your hand.

I'll tell you what they said. They said, — they said,

The shepherd boy that loved you was a clown, And him you should not marry. Was it not?

MARTINA (*surprised*).

How know you that?

HYPOLITO.

O, I know more than that.

What a soft, little hand! And then they said, A cavalier from court, handsome, and tall, And rich, should come one day to marry you, And you should be a lady. Was it not? He has arrived, the handsome cavalier.

(*Tries to kiss her. She runs off. Enter VICTORIAN, with a letter.*)

VICTORIAN.

The muleteer has come.

HYPOLITO.

So soon?

VICTORIAN.

I found him

Sitting at supper by the tavern-door, And, from a pitcher that he held aloft His whole arm's length, drinking the blood-red wine.

HYPOLITO.

What news from Court?

VICTORIAN.

He brought this letter only. (*Reads.*)

That lying tongue deceive me! Preciosa, Sweet Preciosa! how art thou avenged!

HYPOLITO.

What news is this, that makes thy cheek turn pale, And thy hand tremble?

VICTORIAN.

O, most infamous!

The Count of Lara is a damned villain!

HYPOLITO.

That is no news, forsooth.

VICTORIAN.

He strove in vain

To steal from me the jewel of my soul, The love of Preciosa. Not succeeding, He swore to be revenged; and set on foot A plot to ruin her, which has succeeded. She has been hissed and hooted from the stage, Her reputation stained by slanderous lies Too foul to speak of; and, once more a beggar,

She roams a wanderer over God's green earth, Housing with Gypsies!

HYPOLITO.

To renew again

The Age of Gold, and make the shepherd swains Desperate with love, like Gaspar Gil's Diana. *Redit et Virgo!*

VICTORIAN.

Dear Hypolito,

How have I wronged that meek, confiding heart!

I will go seek for her; and with my tears Wash out the wrong I've done her!

HYPOLITO.

O, beware!

Act not that folly o'er again.

VICTORIAN.

Ay, folly,

Delusion, madness, call it what thou wilt, I will confess my weakness, — I still love her! Still fondly love her!

(*Enter the PADRE CURA.*)

HYPOLITO.

Tell us, Padre

PADRE CURA.

Beltran Cruzado and his crew.

VICTORIAN.

Kind Heaven,

I thank thee! She is found! is found again!

HYPOLITO.

And have they with them a pale, beautiful girl,
Called Preciosa?

PADRE CURA.

Ay, a pretty girl.

The gentleman seems moved.

HYPOLITO.

Yes, moved with hunger;
He is half famished with this long day's journey.

PADRE CURA.

Then, pray you, come this way. The supper
waits. [Exeunt.]

SCENE IV.

A post-house on the road to Segovia, not far
from the village of Guadarrama. Enter
CHISPA, cracking a whip, and singing the
Cachucha.

CHISPA.

Halloo! Don Fulano! Let us have horses,
and quickly. Alas, poor Chispa! what a dog's
life dost thou lead! I thought, when I left my
old master Victorian, the student, to serve my
new master Don Carlos, the gentleman, that I,
too, should lead the life of a gentleman; should
go to bed early, and get up late. For when
the abbot plays cards, what can you expect of
the friars! But, in running away from the
thunder, I have run into the lightning. Here
I am in hot chase after my master and his
Gypsy girl. And a good beginning of the
week it is, as he said who was hanged on
Monday morning.

(Enter DON CARLOS.)

DON CARLOS.

Are not the horses ready yet?

CHISPA.

I should think not, for the hostler seems to

horses! (He knocks at the gate with his whip,
and enter MOSQUITO, putting on his jacket.)

MOSQUITO.

Pray, have a little patience. I am not a
musket.

CHISPA.

Health and pistareens! I'm glad to see
you come on dancing, padre! Pray, what's
the news?

MOSQUITO.

You cannot have fresh horses; because there
are none.

CHISPA.

Cachiporra! Throw that bone to another
dog. Do I look like your aunt?

MOSQUITO.

No; she has a beard.

CHISPA.

Go to! go to!

MOSQUITO.

Are you from Madrid?

CHISPA.

Yes; and going to Estramadura. Get us
horses.

MOSQUITO.

What's the news at Court?

CHISPA.

Why, the latest news is, that I am going to
set up a coach, and I have already bought the
whip. (Strikes him round the legs.)

MOSQUITO.

Oh! oh! you hurt me!

DON CARLOS.

Enough of this folly. Let us have horses.
(Gives money to MOSQUITO.) It is almost
dark; and we are in haste. But tell me, has
a band of Gypsies passed this way of late?

MOSQUITO.

Yes; and they are still in the neighbour-
hood.

DON CARLOS.

MOSQUITO.

Across the fields yonder, in the woods near
Guadarrama. [Exit.

DON CARLOS.

Now this is lucky. We will visit the Gypsy
camp.

CHISPA.

Are you not afraid of the evil eye? Have
you a stag's horn with you?

DON CARLOS.

Fear not. We will pass the night at the
village.

CHISPA.

And sleep like the Squires of Hernan Daza,
nine under one blanket.

DON CARLOS.

I hope we may find the Preciosa among
them.

CHISPA.

Among the Squires?

DON CARLOS.

No; among the Gypsies, blockhead!

CHISPA.

I hope we may; for we are giving ourselves
trouble enough on her account. Do n't you
think so? However, there is no catching trout
without wetting one's trousers. Yonder come
the horses. [Exeunt.

SCENE V.

The Gypsy camp in the forest. Night. Gypsies working at a forge. Others playing cards by the fire-light.

GYPSIES (at the forge sing).

On the top of a mountain I stand,
With a crown of red gold in my hand,
Wild Moors come trooping over the lea,
O, how from their fury shall I flee, flee, flee?
O, how from their fury shall I flee?

FIRST GYPSY (playing).

Down with your John-Dorados, my pigeon.
Down with your John-Dorados, and let us

GYPSIES (at the forge sing).

Loud sang the Spanish cavalier,
And thus his ditty ran;
God send the Gypsy lassie here,
And not the Gypsy man.

FIRST GYPSY (playing).

There you are in your morocco!

SECOND GYPSY.

One more game. The Alcalde's doves
against the Padre Cura's new moon.

FIRST GYPSY.

Have at you, Chirelin.

GYPSIES (at the forge sing).

At midnight, when the moon began
To show her silver flame,
There came to him no Gypsy man,
The Gypsy lassie came.

(Enter BELTRAN CRUZADO.)

CRUZADO.

Come hither, Murcigalleros and Rastilleros;
leave work, leave play; listen to your orders
for the night. (*Speaking to the right.*) You
will get you to the village, mark you, by the
stone cross.

GYPSIES.

Ay!

CRUZADO (to the left).

And you, by the pole with the hermit's head
upon it.

GYPSIES.

Ay!

CRUZADO.

As soon as you see the planets are out, in
with you, and be busy with the ten command-
ments, under the sly, and Saint Martin asleep.
D' ye hear?

GYPSIES.

Ay!

CRUZADO.

Keep your lanterns open, and, if you see a
goblin or a papagayo, take to your trampers.
"Vineyards and Dancing John" is the word.
Am I comprehended?

GYPSIES.

CRUZADO.

Away, then !

Exit severally. CRUZADO walks up the stage, and disappears among the trees. Enter PRECIOSA.)

PRECIOSA.

How strangely gleams through the gigantic trees

The red light of the forge ! Wild, beckoning shadows

Stalk through the forest, ever and anon

Rising and bending with the flickering flame,

Then flitting into darkness ! So within me

Strange hopes and fears do beckon to each other,

My brightest hopes giving dark fears a being,

As the light does the shadow. Woe is me !

How still it is about me, and how lonely !

(BARTOLOMÉ rushes in.)

BARTOLOMÉ.

Ho ! Preciosa !

PRECIOSA.

O Bartolomé !

Thou here ?

BARTOLOMÉ.

Lo ! I am here.

PRECIOSA.

Whence comest thou ?

BARTOLOMÉ.

From the rough ridges of the wild Sierra,
From caverns in the rocks, from hunger, thirst,
And fever ! Like a wild wolf to the sheepfold
Come I for thee, my lamb.

PRECIOSA.

O, touch me not !

The Count of Lara's blood is on thy hands !

The Count of Lara's curse is on thy soul !

Do not come near me ! Pray, begone from here !

Thou art in danger ! They have set a price
Upon thy head !

BARTOLOMÉ.

Ay, and I've wandered long
Among the mountains ; and for many days
Have seen no human face, save the rough
swineherd's.

The wind and rain have been my sole com-

I shouted to them from the rocks thy name,
And the loud echo sent it back to me,
Till I grew mad. I could not stay from thee,
And I am here ! Betray me if thou wilt.

PRECIOSA.

Betray thee ? I betray thee !

BARTOLOMÉ.

Preciosa !

I come for thee ! for thee I thus brave death !

Fly with me o'er the borders of this realm !

Fly with me !

PRECIOSA.

Speak of that no more. I cannot.

I am thine no longer.

BARTOLOMÉ.

O, recall the time

When we were children ! how we played together,

How we grew up together ; how we plighted
Our hearts unto each other, even in childhood !

Fulfil thy promise, for the hour has come.

I am hunted from the kingdom, like a wolf !

Fulfil thy promise.

PRECIOSA.

'T was my father's promise,

Not mine. I never gave my heart to thee,

Nor promised thee my hand !

BARTOLOMÉ.

False tongue of woman !

And heart more false !

PRECIOSA.

Nay, listen unto me.

I will speak frankly. I have never loved thee ;

I cannot love thee. This is not my fault,

It is my destiny. Thou art a man

Restless and violent. What wouldst thou with me,

A feeble girl, who have not long to live,

Whose heart is broken ? Seek another wife,

Better than I, and fairer ; and let not

Thy rash and headlong moods estrange her from thee.

Thou art unhappy in this hopeless passion.

I never sought thy love ; never did aught

To make thee love me Yet I pity thee,

And most of all I pity thy wild heart,

That hurries thee to crimes and deeds of blood.

BARTOLOMÉ.

For thy dear sake,
I will be gentle. Thou shalt teach me patience.

PRECIOSA.

Then take this farewell, and depart in peace.
Thou must not linger here.

BARTOLOMÉ.

Come, come with me.

PRECIOSA.

Hark ! I hear footsteps.

BARTOLOMÉ.

I entreat thee, come !

PRECIOSA.

Away ! It is in vain.

BARTOLOMÉ.

Wilt thou not come ?

PRECIOSA.

Never !

BARTOLOMÉ.

Then woe, eternal woe, upon thee !
Thou shalt not be another's. Thou shalt die.

[Exit.

PRECIOSA.

All holy angels keep me in this hour !
Spirit of her who bore me, look upon me !
Mother of God, the glorified, protect me !
Christ and the saints, be merciful unto me !
Yet why should I fear death ? What is it to die ?

To leave all disappointment, care, and sorrow,
To leave all falsehood, treachery, and unkindness,

All ignominy, suffering, and despair,
And be at rest for ever ! O dull heart,
Be of good cheer ! When thou shalt cease to beat,
Then shalt thou cease to suffer and complain !

(Enter VICTORIAN and HYPOLITO behind.)

VICTORIAN.

'T is she ! Behold, how beautiful she stands
Under the tent-like trees !

HYPOLITO.

A woodland nymph !

VICTORIAN.

HYPOLITO.

Be wary.

Do not betray thyself too soon.

VICTORIAN (*disguising his voice*).

Hist ! Gypsy !

PRECIOSA (*aside, with emotion*).

That voice ! that voice from heaven ! O, speak again !

Who is it calls ?

VICTORIAN.

A friend.

PRECIOSA (*aside*).

'T is he ! 'T is he !

I thank thee, Heaven, that thou hast heard my prayer,

And sent me this protector ! Now be strong,
Be strong, my heart ! I must dissemble here.
False friend or true ?

VICTORIAN.

A true friend to the true ;
Fear not ; come hither. So ; can you tell fortunes ?

PRECIOSA.

Not in the dark. Come nearer to the fire.
Give me your hand. It is not crossed, I see.

VICTORIAN (*putting a piece of gold into her hand*).

There is the cross.

PRECIOSA.

Is 't silver ?

VICTORIAN.

No, 't is gold.

PRECIOSA.

There 's a fair lady at the Court who loves you,
And for yourself alone.

VICTORIAN.

Fie ! the old story !
Tell me a better fortune for my money ;
Not this old woman's tale !

PRECIOSA.

You are passionate ;
And this same passionate humor in your blood
Has marred your fortune. Yes ; I see i

Shame ! shame ! O, you have wronged the
maid who loved you !
How could you do it ?

VICTORIAN.

I never loved a maid ;
For she I loved was then a maid no more.

PRECIOSA.

How know you that ?

VICTORIAN.

A little bird in the air
Whispered the secret.

PRECIOSA.

There, take back your gold !
Your hand is cold, like a deceiver's hand !
There is no blessing in its charity !
Make her your wife, for you have been abused ;
And you shall mend your fortunes, mending
hers.

VICTORIAN (*aside*).

How like an angel's speaks the tongue of
woman,
When pleading in another's cause her own ! —
That is a pretty ring upon your finger.
Pray give it me. (*Tries to take the ring.*)

PRECIOSA.

No ; never from my hand
Shall that be taken !

VICTORIAN.

Why, 't is but a ring.
I 'll give it back to you ; or, if I keep it,
Will give you gold to buy you twenty such.

PRECIOSA.

Why would you have this ring ?

VICTORIAN.

A traveller's fancy,
A whim, and nothing more. I would fain
keep it
As a memento of the Gypsy camp
In Guadarrama, and the fortune-teller
Who sent me back to wed a widowed maid.
Pray, let me have the ring.

PRECIOSA.

No, never ! never !
I will not part with it, even when I die ;
But bid my nurse fold my pale fingers thus,
That it may not fall from them. 'T is a token
Of a beloved friend, who is no more.

VICTORIAN.

How ? dead !

PRECIOSA.

Yes ; dead to me ; and worse than dead.
He is estranged ! And yet I keep this ring.
I will rise with it from my grave hereafter,
To prove to him that I was never false.

VICTORIAN (*aside*).

Be still, my swelling heart ! one moment, still !
Why, 't is the folly of a lovesick girl.
Come, give it me, or I will say 't is mine,
And that you stole it.

PRECIOSA.

O, you will not dare
To utter such a fiendish lie !

VICTORIAN.

Not dare ?
Look in my face, and say if there is aught
I have not dared, I would not dare, for thee !

(*She rushes into his arms.*)

PRECIOSA.

'T is thou ! 't is thou ! Yes ; yes ; my heart's
elected !
My dearest-dear Victorian ! my soul's heaven !
Where hast thou been so long ? Why didst
thou leave me ?

VICTORIAN.

Ask me not now, my dearest Preciosa.
Let me forget we ever have been parted.

PRECIOSA.

Hadst thou not come —

VICTORIAN.

I pray thee, do not chide me !

PRECIOSA.

I should have perished here among these Gyp-
sies.

VICTORIAN.

Forgive me, sweet ! for what I made thee suf-
fer.
Think'st thou this heart could feel a moment's
joy,
Thou being absent ? O, believe it not !
Indeed, since that sad hour I have not slept,
For thinking of the wrong I did to thee !
Dost thou forgive me ? Say, wilt thou forgive
me ?

PRECIOSA.

I have forgiven thee. Ere those words of anger
Were in the book of Heaven writ down against
thee,
I had forgiven thee.

VICTORIAN.

I 'm the veriest fool
That walks the earth, to have believed thee
false.
It was the Count of Lara —

PRECIOSA.

That bad man
Has worked me harm enough. Hast thou not
heard —

VICTORIAN.

I have heard all. And yet speak on, speak on !
Let me but hear thy voice, and I am happy ;
For every tone, like some sweet incantation,
Calls up the buried past to plead for me.
Speak, my beloved, speak into my heart,
Whatever fills and agitates thine own.

(They walk aside.)

HYPOLITO.

All gentle quarrels in the pastoral poets,
All passionate love-scenes in the best romances,
All chaste embraces on the public stage,
All soft adventures, which the liberal stars
Have winked at, as the natural course of things,
Have been surpassed here by my friend, the
student,
And this sweet Gypsy lass, fair Preciosa !

PRECIOSA.

Señor Hypolito ! I kiss your hand.
Pray, shall I tell your fortune ?

HYPOLITO.

Not to-night ;
For, should you treat me as you did Victorian,
And send me back to marry maids forlorn,
My wedding-day would last from now till
Christmas.

CHISPA *(within)*.

What ho ! the Gypsies, ho ! Beltran Cruzado !
Halloo ! halloo ! halloo ! halloo !

(Enters booted, with a whip and lantern.)

VICTORIAN.

What now ?
Why such a fearful din ? Hast thou been

CHISPA.

Ay, robbed and murdered ; and good evening
to you,
My worthy masters.

VICTORIAN.

Speak ; what brings thee here ?

CHISPA *(to Preciosa)*.

Good news from Court ; good news ! Beltran
Cruzado,
The Count of the Calés, is not your father,
But your true father has returned to Spain
Laden with wealth. You are no more a Gypsy

VICTORIAN.

Strange as a Moorish tale !

CHISPA.

And we have all
Been drinking at the tavern to your health,
As wells drink in November, when it rains.

VICTORIAN.

Where is the gentleman ?

CHISPA.

As the old song says,

His body is in Segovia,
His soul is in Madrid.

PRECIOSA.

Is this a dream ? O, if it be a dream,
Let me sleep on, and do not wake me yet !
Repeat thy story ! Say I 'm not deceived !
Say that I do not dream ! I am awake ;
This is the Gypsy camp ; this is Victorian,
And this his friend, Hypolito ! Speak ! speak !
Let me not wake and find it all a dream !

VICTORIAN.

It is a dream, sweet child ! a waking dream,
A blissful certainty, a vision bright
Of that rare happiness which even on earth
Heaven gives to those it loves. Now art thou
rich,
As thou wast ever beautiful and good ;
And I am now the beggar.

PRECIOSA *(giving him her hand)*.

I have still
A hand to give.

CHISPA *(aside)*.

I've heard my grandmother say, that Heaven
gives almonds
To those who have no teeth. That 's nuts to
crack.

I've teeth to spare, but where shall I find al-
monds?

VICTORIAN.

What more of this strange story?

CHISPA.

Nothing more.

Your friend, Don Carlos, is now at the village,
Showing to Pedro Crespo, the Alcalde,
The proofs of what I tell you. The old hag
Who stole you in your childhood has con-
fessed;

And probably they 'll hang her for the crime,
To make the celebration more complete.

VICTORIAN.

No; let it be a day of general joy;
Fortune comes well to all, that comes not late.
Now let us join Don Carlos.

HYPOLITO.

So farewell

The student's wandering life! Sweet sere-
nades,

Sung under ladies' windows in the night,
And all that makes vacation beautiful!
To you, ye cloistered shades of Alcalá,
To you, ye radiant visions of romance,
Written in books, but here surpassed by truth,
The Bachelor Hypolito returns,
And leaves the Gypsy with the Spanish Stu-
dent.

SCENE VI.

A pass in the Guadarrama mountains. Early morning. A muleteer crosses the stage, sitting sideways on his mule, and lighting a paper cigar with flint and steel.

SONG.

If thou art sleeping, maiden,
Awake and open thy door,
'T is the break of day, and we must away,
O'er meadow, and mount, and moor.

Wait not to find thy slippers,
But come with thy naked feet;
We shall have to pass through the dewy grass,
And waters wide and fleet.

(Disappears down the pass. Enter a Monk. A Shepherd appears on the rocks above.)

MONK.

Ave Maria, gratia plena. Olá! good man!

SHEPHERD.

Olá!

MONK.

Is this the road to Segovia?

SHEPHERD.

It is, your reverence.

MONK.

How far is it?

SHEPHERD.

I do not know.

MONK.

What is that yonder in the valley?

SHEPHERD.

San Ildefonso.

MONK.

A long way to breakfast.

SHEPHERD.

Ay, marry.

MONK.

Are there robbers in these mountains?

SHEPHERD.

Yes, and worse than that.

MONK.

What?

SHEPHERD.

Wolves.

MONK.

Santa Maria! Come with me to San Ildefonso, and thou shalt be well rewarded.

SHEPHERD.

What wilt thou give me?

MONK.

An Agnus Dei and my benediction.

(They disappear. A mounted Contrabandista passes, wrapped in his cloak, and a gun at his saddlebow. He goes down the pass singing.)

SONG.

Worn with speed is my good steed,
 And I march me hurried, worried;
 Onward! caballito mio,
 With the white star in thy forehead!
 Onward! for here comes the Ronda,
 And I hear their rifles crack!
 Ay, jaleo! Ay, ay, jaleo!
 Ay, jaleo! they cross our track.

(*Song dies away. Enter PRECIOSA, on horse-back, attended by VICTORIAN, HYPOLITO, DON CARLOS, and CHISPA, on foot, and armed.*)

VICTORIAN.

This is the highest point. Here let us rest.
 See, Preciosa, see how all about us,
 Kneeling, like hooded friars, the misty mountains
 Receive the benediction of the sun!
 O, glorious sight!

PRECIOSA.

Most beautiful indeed!

HYPOLITO.

Most wonderful!

VICTORIAN.

And in the vale below,
 Where yonder steeples flash like lifted halberds,
 San Ildefonso, from its noisy belfries,
 Sends up a salutation to the morn,
 As if an army smote their brazen shields,
 And shouted victory!

PRECIOSA.

And which way lies

Segovia?

VICTORIAN.

At a great distance yonder.
 Dost thou not see it?

PRECIOSA.

No. I do not see it.

VICTORIAN.

The merest flaw that dents the horizon's edge.
 There, yonder!

HYPOLITO.

'T is a notable old town,
 Boasting an ancient Roman aqueduct,
 And an Alfofraz, builded by the Moors.

Wherein, you may remember, poor Gil Blas
 Was fed on *Pan del Rey*. O, many a time
 Out of its grated windows have I looked
 Hundreds of feet plumb down to the Eresma,
 That, like a serpent through the valley creeping,
 Glides at its foot.

PRECIOSA.

O, yes! I see it now,
 Yet rather with my heart than with mine eyes,
 So faint it is. And all my thoughts sail thither,
 Freightened with prayers and hopes, and forward urged
 Against all stress of accident, as, in
 The Eastern Tale, against the wind and tide,
 Great ships were drawn to the Magnetic Mountains,
 And there were wrecked and perished in the
 sea! (*She weeps.*)

VICTORIAN.

O gentle spirit! Thou didst bear unmoved
 Blasts of adversity and frosts of fate!
 But the first ray of sunshine that falls on thee
 Melts thee to tears! O, let thy weary heart
 Lean upon mine! and it shall faint no more,
 Nor thirst, nor hunger; but be comforted
 And filled with my affection.

PRECIOSA.

Stay no longer!
 My father waits. Methinks I see him there,
 Now looking from the window, and now watching
 Each sound of wheels or foot-fall in the street,
 And saying, "Hark! she comes!" O father!
 father!

(*They descend the pass. CHISPA remains behind.*)

CHISPA.

I have a father, too, but he is a dead one.
 Alas and alack-a-day! Poor was I born, and
 poor do I remain. I neither win nor lose.
 Thus I wag through the world, half the time
 on foot, and the other half walking; and al-
 ways as merry as a thunder-storm in the night.
 And so we plough along, as the fly said to the
 ox. Who knows what may happen? Patience,
 and shuffle the cards! I am not yet so bald,
 that you can see my brains; and perhaps, after
 all, I shall some day go to Rome, and ex-

A pause. Then enter BARTOLOMÉ wildly, as if in pursuit, with a carbine in his hand.

BARTOLOMÉ.

They passed this way! I hear their horses' hoofs!

Wonder I see them! Come, sweet caramillo,

This serenade shall be the Gypsy's last!

(Fires down the pass.)

Ha! ha! Well whistled, my sweet caramillo! Well whistled!—I have missed her!—O my God!

(The shot is returned. BARTOLOMÉ falls.)

NOTES.

Page 57. *As Lope says.*

"La cólera
de un Español sentado no se templa,
sino le representan en dos horas
hasta el final juicio desde el Génesis."
Lope de Vega.

Page 59. *Abernuncio Salanas.*

"Digo, Señora, respondió Sancho, lo que tengo dicho, que de los azotes abernuncio. Abrenuncio, llameis de decir, Sancho, y no como decís, dijo el Duque." — *Don Quixote*, Part II., ch. 35.

Page 64. *Fray Carrillo.*

The allusion here is to a Spanish epigram.

"Siempre Fray Carrillo estás
cansándonos acá fuera;
quien en tu celda estuviera
para no verte jamás!"

Bühl de Faber. Floresta, No. 611.

Page 64. *Padre Francisco.*

This is from an Italian popular song.

"Padre Francesco,
Padre Francesco!
— Cosa volete del Padre Francesco —
'V' è una bella ragazzina
Che si vuole confessar!
Fatte l' entrare, fatte l' entrare!
Che la voglio confessare."

*Kopisch. Volkthümliche Poesien aus allen
Mundarten Italiens und seiner Inseln, p. 194.*

Page 65. *Ave! cujus calcem clare.*

From a monkish hymn of the twelfth century, in Sir Alexander Croke's *Essay on the Origin, Progress, and Decline of Rhyming Latin Verse*, p. 109.

Page 68. *The gold of the Busné.*

Busné is the name given by the Gypsies to all

Page 69. *Count of the Calés.*

The Gypsies call themselves Calés. See Borrow's valuable and extremely interesting work, *The Zinçali; or an Account of the Gypsies in Spain*. London, 1841.

Page 71. *Asks if his money-bags would rise.*

"¿Y volviéndome á un lado, ví á un Avariento, que estaba preguntando á otro (que por haber sido embalsamado, y estar léxos sus tripas no hablaba, porque no habian llegado si habian de resucitar aquel día todos los enterrados), si resucitarían unos bolsones suyos?" — *El Sueño de las Calaveras*.

Page 71. *And amen! said the Cid Campeador.*

A line from the ancient *Poema del Cid*.

"Amen, dixo Mio Cid el Campeador."
Line 3044.

Page 71. *The river of his thoughts.*

This expression is from Dante;

"Si che chiaro
Per essa ascenda della mente il fume."

Byron has likewise used the expression; though I do not recollect in which of his poems.

Page 72. *Mari Franca.*

A common Spanish proverb, used to turn aside a question one does not wish to answer;

"Porque casó Mari Franca
quatro leguas de Salamanca."

Page 72. *Ay, soft, emerald eyes.*

The Spaniards, with good reason, consider this color of the eye as beautiful, and celebrate it in song; as, for example, in the well known *Vil-lancico*: —

"Ay ojuelos verdes,

ay hagan los cielos
que de mí te acuerdes !

Tengo confianza
de mis verdes ojos."

Böhl de Fober. Floresta, No. 255.

Dante speaks of Beatrice's eyes as emeralds. *Purgatorio*, xxxi. 116. Lami says, in his *Annotazioni*, "Erano i suoi occhi d' un turchino verdiccio, simile a quel del mare."

Page 73. *The Avenging Child.*

See the ancient ballads of *El Infante Vengador*, and *Calaynos*.

Page 73. *All are sleeping.*

From the Spanish. *Böhl's Floresta*, No. 282.

Page 80. *Good night.*

From the Spanish ; as are likewise the songs immediately following, and that which commences the first scene of Act III.

Page 88. *The evil eye.*

"In the Gitano language, casting the evil eye is called *Querelar nasula*, which simply means making sick, and which, according to the common superstition, is accomplished by casting an evil look at people, especially children, who, from the tenderness of their constitution, are supposed to be more easily blighted than those of a more mature age. After receiving the evil glance, they fall sick, and die in a few hours.

"The Spaniards have very little to say respecting the evil eye, though the belief in it is very prevalent, especially in Andalusia, amongst the lower orders. A stag's horn is considered a

good safeguard, and on that account a small horn tipped with silver, is frequently attached to the children's necks by means of a cord braided from the hair of a black mare's tail. Should the evil glance be cast, it is imagined that the horn receives it, and instantly snaps asunder. Such horns may be purchased in some of the silver smiths' shops at Seville." — Borrow's *Zincali* Vol. I., ch. ix.

Page 88. *On the top of a mountain I stand.*

This and the following scraps of song are from Borrow's *Zincali* ; or an *Account of the Gypsies in Spain*.

The Gypsy words in the same scene may be thus interpreted :—

John-Dorados, pieces of gold.

Pigeon, a simpleton.

In your morocco, stripped.

Doves, sheets.

Moon, a shirt.

Chirelin, a thief.

Murcigalleros, those who steal at night-fall.

Rastilleros, foot-pads.

Hermit, highway-robber.

Planets, candles.

Commandments, the fingers.

Saint Martin asleep, to rob a person asleep.

Lanterns, eyes.

Goblin, police-officer.

Papagayo, a spy.

Vineyards and Dancing John, to take flight.

Page 93. *If thou art sleeping, maiden.*

From the Spanish ; as is likewise the song of the *Contrabandista* on page 94.

THE BELFRY OF BRUGES AND OTHER POEMS.

CARILLON.

In the ancient town of Bruges,
In the quaint old Flemish city,
As the evening shades descended,
Low and loud and sweetly blended,
Low at times and loud at times,
And changing like a poet's rhymes,
Rang the beautiful wild chimes
From the Belfry in the market
Of the ancient town of Bruges.

Then, with deep sonorous clangor
Calmly answering their sweet anger,
When the wrangling bells had ended,
Slowly struck the clock eleven,
And, from out the silent heaven,
Silence on the town descended.
Silence, silence everywhere,
On the earth and in the air,
Save that footsteps here and there
Of some burgher home returning
By the street lamps faintly burning,
For a moment woke the echoes
Of the ancient town of Bruges.

But amid my broken slumbers
Still I heard those magic numbers,
As they loud proclaimed the flight
And stolen marches of the night;
Till their chimes in sweet collision
Mingled with each wandering vision,
Mingled with the fortune-telling
Gypsy-bands of dreams and fancies,
Which amid the waste expanses
Of the silent land of trances
Have their solitary dwelling.

All else seemed asleep in Bruges,
In the quaint old Flemish city.

And I thought how like these chimes
Are the poet's airy rhymes,
All his rhymes and roundelays,
His conceits, and songs, and ditties,
From the belfry of his brain,
Scattered downward, though in vain,
On the roofs and stones of cities!
For by night the drowsy ear
Under its curtains cannot hear,
And by day men go their ways,
Hearing the music as they pass,
But deeming it no more, alas!
Than the hollow sound of brass.

Yet perchance a sleepless wight,
Lodging at some humble inn
In the narrow lanes of life,
When the dusk and hush of night
Shut out the incessant din
Of daylight and its toil and strife,
May listen with a calm delight
To the poet's melodies,
Till he hears, or dreams he hears,
Intermingled with the song,
Thoughts that he has cherished long;
Hears amid the chime and singing
The bells of his own village ringing,
And wakes, and finds his slumberous eyes
Wet with most delicious tears.

Thus dreamed I, as by night I lay
In Bruges, at the Fleur-de-Blé,
Listening with a wild delight
To the chimes that, through the night,
Rang their changes from the Belfry
Of that quaint old Flemish city.

THE BELFRY OF BRUGES.

In the market-place of Bruges stands the belfry
old and brown ;
Thrice consumed and thrice rebuilt, still it
watches o'er the town.

As the summer morn was breaking, on that
lofty tower I stood,
And the world threw off the darkness, like the
weeds of widowhood.

Thick with towns and hamlets studded, and
with streams and vapors gray,
Like a shield embossed with silver, round and
vast the landscape lay.

At my feet the city slumbered. From its chim-
neys, here and there,
Wreaths of snow-white smoke, ascending, van-
ished, ghost-like, into air.

Not a sound rose from the city at that early
morning hour,
But I heard a heart of iron beating in the an-
cient tower.

From their nests beneath the rafters sang the
swallows wild and high ;
And the world, beneath me sleeping, seemed
more distant than the sky.

Then most musical and solemn, bringing back
the olden times,
With their strange, unearthly changes rang the
melancholy chimes,

Like the psalms from some old cloister, when
the nuns sing in the choir ;
And the great bell tolled among them, like the
chanting of a friar.

Visions of the days departed, shadowy phan-
toms filled my brain ;
They who live in history only seemed to walk
the earth again ;

All the Foresters of Flanders, — mighty Bald-
win Bras de Fer,
Lyderick du Bucq and Cressy, Philip, Guy de

I beheld the pageants splendid, that adorned
those days of old ;
Stately dames, like queens attended, knights
who bore the Fleece of Gold ;

Lombard and Venetian merchants with deep-
laden argosies ;
Ministers from twenty nations ; more than royal
pomp and ease.

I beheld proud Maximilian, kneeling humbly
on the ground ;
I beheld the gentle Mary, hunting with her
hawk and hound ;

And her lighted bridal-chamber, where a duke
slept with the queen,
And the armed guard around them, and the
sword unsheathed between.

I beheld the Flemish weavers, with Namur and
Juliers bold,
Marching homeward from the bloody battle of
the Spurs of Gold ;

Saw the fight at Minnewater, saw the White
Hoods moving west,
Saw great Artevelde victorious scale the Gold-
en Dragon's nest.

And again the whiskered Spaniard all the land
with terror smote ;
And again the wild alarum sounded from the
tocsin's throat ;

Till the bell of Ghent responded o'er lagoon
and dike of sand,
“ I am Roland ! I am Roland ! there is victory
in the land ! ”

Then the sound of drums aroused me. The
awakened city's roar
Chased the phantoms I had summoned back
into their graves once more.

Hours had passed away like minutes ; and
before I was aware,
Lo ! the shadow of the belfry crossed

MISCELLANEOUS.

A GLEAM OF SUNSHINE.

This is the place. Stand still, my steed,
 Let me review the scene,
 And summon from the shadowy Past
 The forms that once have been.

The Past and Present here unite
 Beneath Time's flowing tide,
 Like footprints hidden by a brook,
 But seen on either side.

Here runs the highway to the town ;
 There the green lane descends,
 Through which I walked to church with thee,
 O gentlest of my friends !

The shadow of the linden-trees
 Lay moving on the grass ;
 Between them and the moving boughs,
 A shadow, thou didst pass.

Thy dress was like the lilies,
 And thy heart as pure as they :
 One of God's holy messengers
 Did walk with me that day.

I saw the branches of the trees
 Bend down thy touch to meet,
 The clover-blossoms in the grass
 Rise up to kiss thy feet.

"Sleep, sleep to-day, tormenting cares,
 Of earth and folly born !"
 Solemnly sang the village choir
 On that sweet Sabbath morn.

Through the closed blinds the golden sun
 Poured in a dusty beam,
 Like the celestial ladder seen
 By Jacob in his dream.

And ever and anon, the wind,
 Sweet-scented with the hay,
 Turned o'er the hymn-book's fluttering leaves
 That on the window lay.

Long was the good man's sermon,
 Yet it seemed not so to me ;
 For he spoke of Ruth the beautiful.

Long was the prayer he uttered,
 Yet it seemed not so to me ;
 For in my heart I prayed with him,
 And still I thought of thee.

But now, alas ! the place seems changed ;
 Thou art no longer here :
 Part of the sunshine of the scene
 With thee did disappear.

Though thoughts, deep-rooted in my heart,
 Like pine-trees dark and high,
 Subdue the light of noon, and breathe
 A low and ceaseless sigh ;

This memory brightens o'er the past,
 As when the sun, concealed
 Behind some cloud that near us hangs,
 Shines on a distant field.

THE ARSENAL AT SPRINGFIELD.

This is the Arsenal. From floor to ceiling,
 Like a huge organ, rise the burnished arms ;
 But from their silent pipes no anthem pealing
 Startles the villages with strange alarms.

Ah ! what a sound will rise, how wild and dreary,
 When the death-angel touches those swift
 keys !

What loud lament and dismal Miserere
 Will mingle with their awful symphonies !

I hear even now the infinite fierce chorus,
 The cries of agony, the endless groan,
 Which, through the ages that have gone be-
 fore us,
 In long reverberations reach our own.

On helm and harness rings the Saxon hammer,
 Through Cimbric forest roars the Norse-
 man's song,
 And loud, amid the universal clamor,
 O'er distant deserts sounds the Tartar gong.

I hear the Florentine, who from his palace

And Aztec priests upon their teocalis
Beat the wild war-drums made of serpent's
skin ;

The tumult of each sacked and burning village ;
The shout that every prayer for mercy
drowns ;

The soldier's revels in the midst of pillage ;
The wail of famine in beleaguered towns ;

The bursting shell, the gateway wrenched
asunder,

The rattling musketry, the clashing blade ;
And ever and anon, in tones of thunder,
The diapason of the cannonade.

Is it, O man, with such discordant noises,
With such accursed instruments as these,
Thou drownest Nature's sweet and kindly
voices,
And jarrest the celestial harmonies ?

Were half the power, that fills the world with
terror,

Were half the wealth, bestowed on camps
and courts,

Given to redeem the human mind from error,
There were no need of arsenals nor forts :

The warrior's name would be a name ab-
horred !

And every nation, that should lift again
its hand against a brother, on its forehead
Would wear forevermore the curse of Cain !

Down the dark future, through long genera-
tions,

The echoing sounds grow fainter and then
cease ;

And like a bell, with solemn, sweet vibrations,
I hear once more the voice of Christ say,
" Peace ! "

Peace ! and no longer from its brazen portals
The blast of War's great organ shakes the
skies ! .

But beautiful as songs of the immortals,
The holy melodies of love arise.

NUREMBERG.

In the valley of the Pegnitz, where across
broad meadow-lands

Rise the blue Franconian mountains, Nurem-

Quaint old town of toil and traffic, quaint
town of art and song,
Memories haunt thy pointed gables, like
rooks that round them throng :

Memories of the Middle Ages, when the
emperors, rough and bold,
Had their dwelling in thy castle, time-defying
centuries old ;

And thy brave and thrifty burghers boasted
in their uncouth rhyme,

That their great imperial city stretched
its hand through every clime.

In the court-yard of the castle, bound with
many an iron band,

Stands the mighty linden planted by Queen
Cunigunde's hand ;

On the square the oriel window, where in old
heroic days

Sat the poet Melchior singing Kaiser Maximilian's
praise.

Everywhere I see around me rise the wondrous
world of Art :

Fountains wrought with richest sculpture
standing in the common mart ;

And above cathedral doorways saints and bishops
carved in stone,

By a former age commissioned as apostles to
our own.

In the church of sainted Sebald sleeps en-
shrined his holy dust,

And in bronze the Twelve Apostles guard from
age to age their trust ;

In the church of sainted Lawrence stands a piece
of sculpture rare,

Like the foamy sheaf of fountains, rising
through the painted air.

Here, when Art was still religion, with a simple,
reverent heart,

Lived and labored Albrecht Dürer, the Evangelist
of Art ;

Hence in silence and in sorrow, toiling still
with busy hand,

Like an emigrant he wandered, seeking for the
Better Land.

Emigravit is the inscription on the tomb-stone
where he lies ;

Dead he is not, — but departed, — for the soul

Fairer seems the ancient city, and the sunshine
seems more fair,
That he once has trod its pavement, that he
once has breathed its air !

Through these streets so broad and stately,
these obscure and dismal lanes,
Walked of yore the Mastersingers, chanting
rude poetic strains.

From remote and sunless suburbs, came they
to the friendly guild,

Building nests in Fame's great temple, as in
spouts the swallows build.

As the weaver plied the shuttle, wove he too
the mystic rhyme,
And the smith his iron measures hammered to
the anvil's chime ;

Thanking God, whose boundless wisdom makes
the flowers of poesy bloom
In the forge's dust and cinders, in the tissues
of the loom.

Here Hans Sachs, the cobbler-poet, laureate
of the gentle craft,
Wisest of the Twelve Wise Masters, in huge
folios sang and laughed.

But his house is now an ale-house, with a
nicely sanded floor,
And a garland in the window, and his face
above the door ;

Painted by some humble artist, as in Adam
Puschman's song,
As the old man gray and dove-like, with his
great beard white and long.

And at night the swart mechanic comes to
drown his cark and care,
Quaffing ale from pewter tankards, in the mas-
ter's antique chair.

Vanished is the ancient splendor, and before
my dreamy eye
Wave these mingling shapes and figures, like
a faded tapestry.

Not thy Councils not thy Kaisers, win for
thee the world's regard ;
But thy painter, Albrecht Dürer, and Hans
Sachs, thy cobbler-bard.

Thus, O Nuremberg a wanderer from a region
far away,
he paced thy streets and court-yards, sang

Gathering from the pavement's crevice, as a
floweret of the soil,
The nobility of labor, — the long pedigree of
toil.

THE NORMAN BARON.

Dans les moments de la vie où la réflexion devient plus
calme et plus profonde, où l'intérêt et l'avarice parlent
moins haut que la raison, dans les instants de chagrin do-
mestique, de maladie, et de péril de mort, les nobles se re-
pentirent de posséder des serfs, comme d'une chose peu
agréable à Dieu, qui avait créé tous les hommes à son im-
age. — *Thierry : Conquête de l'Angleterre.*

In his chamber, weak and dying,
Was the Norman baron lying ;
Loud, without, the tempest thundered,
And the castle-turret shook.

In this fight was Death the gainer,
Spite of vassal and retainer,
And the lands his sires had plundered,
Written in the Doomsday Book.

By his bed a monk was seated,
Who in humble voice repeated
Many a prayer and pater-noster,
From the missal on his knee ;

And, amid the tempest pealing,
Sounds of bells came faintly stealing,
Bells, that, from the neighbouring kloster,
Rang for the Nativity.

In the hall, the serf and vassal
Held, that night, their Christmas wassail ;
Many a carol, old and saintly,
Sang the minstrels and the waits.

And so loud these Saxon gleemen
Sang to slaves the songs of freemen,
That the storm was heard but faintly,
Knocking at the castle-gates.

Till at length the lays they chanted
Reached the chamber terror-haunted,
Where the monk, with accents holy,
Whispered at the baron's ear.

Tears upon his eyelids glistened,
As he paused awhile and listened,
And the dying baron slowly
Turned his weary head to hear.

" Wassail for the kingly stranger
Born and cradled in a manger !
King, like David, priest, like Aaron.

And the lightning showed the sainted
 Figures on the casement painted,
 And exclaimed the shuddering baron,
 "Miserere, Domine!"

In that hour of deep contrition,
 He beheld, with clearer vision,
 Through all outward show and fashion,
 Justice, the Avenger, rise.

All the pomp of earth had vanished,
 Falsehood and deceit were banished,
 Reason spake more loud than passion,
 And the truth wore no disguise.

Every vassal of his banner,
 Every serf born to his manor,
 All those wronged and wretched creatures,
 By his hand were freed again.

And, as on the sacred missal
 He recorded their dismissal,
 Death relaxed his iron features,
 And the monk replied, "Amen!"

Many centuries have been numbered
 Since in death the baron slumbered
 By the convent's sculptured portal,
 Mingling with the common dust:

But the good deed, through the ages
 Living in historic pages,
 Brighter grows and gleams immortal,
 Unconsumed by moth or rust.

RAIN IN SUMMER.

How beautiful is the rain!
 After the dust and heat,
 In the broad and fiery street,
 In the narrow lane,
 How beautiful is the rain!

How it clatters along the roofs,
 Like the tramp of hoofs!
 How it gushes and struggles out
 From the throat of the overflowing spout!
 Across the window-pane
 It pours and pours;
 And swift and wide,
 With a muddy tide,
 Like a river down the gutter roars

The sick man from his chamber looks
 At the twisted brooks;
 He can feel the cool
 Breath of each little pool;
 His fevered brain
 Grows calm again,
 And he breathes a blessing on the rain.

From the neighbouring school
 Come the boys,
 With more than their wonted noise
 And commotion;
 And down the wet streets
 Sail their mimic fleets,
 Till the treacherous pool
 Engulfs them in its whirling
 And turbulent ocean.

In the country, on every side,
 Where far and wide,
 Like a leopard's tawny and spotted hide,
 Stretches the plain,
 To the dry grass and the drier grain
 How welcome is the rain!

In the furrowed land
 The toilsome and patient oxen stand;
 Lifting the yoke-encumbered head,
 With their dilated nostrils spread,
 They silently inhale
 The clover-scented gale,
 And the vapors that arise
 From the well watered and smoking soil.
 For this rest in the furrow after toil
 Their large and lustrous eyes
 Seem to thank the Lord,
 More than man's spoken word.

Near at hand,
 From under the sheltering trees,
 The farmer sees
 His pastures, and his fields of grain,
 As they bend their tops
 To the numberless beating drops
 Of the incessant rain.
 He counts it as no sin
 That he sees therein
 Only his own thrift and gain.

These, and far more than these,
 The Poet sees!
 He can behold
 Aquarius old
 Walking the fenceless fields of air;

Of the clouds about him rolled
 Scattering everywhere
 The showery rain,
 As the farmer scatters his grain.

He can behold
 Things manifold
 That have not yet been wholly told,—
 Have not been wholly sung nor said.
 For his thought, that never stops,
 Follows the water-drops
 Down to the graves of the dead,
 Down through chasms and gulfs profound,
 To the dreary fountain-head
 Of lakes and rivers under ground ;
 And sees them, when the rain is done,
 On the bridge of colors seven
 Climbing up once more to heaven,
 Opposite the setting sun.

Thus the Seer,
 With vision clear,
 Sees forms appear and disappear,
 In the perpetual round of strange,
 Mysterious change
 From birth to death, from death to birth,
 From earth to heaven, from heaven to earth ;
 Till glimpses more sublime
 Of things, unseen before,
 Unto his wondering eyes reveal
 The Universe, as an immeasurable wheel
 Turning for evermore
 In the rapid and rushing river of Time.

TO A CHILD.

DEAR child ! how radiant on thy mother's knee,
 With merry-making eyes and jocund smiles,
 Thou gazest at the painted tiles,
 Whose figures grace,
 With many a grotesque form and face,
 The ancient chimney of thy nursery !
 The lady with the gay macaw,
 The dancing girl, the grave bashaw
 With bearded lip and chin ;
 And, leaning idly o'er his gate,
 Beneath the imperial fan of state,
 The Chinese mandarin.

With what a look of proud command
 Thou shakest in thy little hand

Making a merry tune !
 Thousands of years in Indian seas
 That coral grew by slow degrees,
 Until some deadly and wild monsoon
 Dashed it on Coromandel's sand !
 Those silver bells
 Reposed of yore,
 As shapeless ore,
 Far down in the deep-sunken wells
 Of darksome mines,
 In some obscure and sunless place,
 Beneath huge Chimborazo's base,
 Or steep Potosi's mountain pines !
 And thus for thee, O little child,
 Through many a danger and escape,
 The tall ships passed the stormy cape ;
 For thee in foreign lands remote,
 Beneath a burning, tropic clime,
 The Indian peasant, chasing the wild goat,
 Himself as swift and wild,
 In falling, clutched the frail arbute,
 The fibres of whose shallow root,
 Uplifted from the soil, betrayed
 The silver veins beneath it laid,
 The buried treasures of the miser, Time.

But, lo ! thy door is left ajar !
 Thou hearest footsteps from afar !
 And, at the sound,
 Thou turnest round
 With quick and questioning eyes,
 Like one, who, in a foreign land,
 Beholds on every hand
 Some source of wonder and surprise !
 And, restlessly, impatiently,
 Thou strivest, strugglest, to be free.
 The four walls of thy nursery
 Are now like prison-walls to thee.
 No more thy mother's smiles,
 No more the painted tiles,
 Delight thee, nor the playthings on the floor,
 That won thy little, beating heart before ;
 Thou strugglest for the open door.

Through these once solitary halls
 Thy pattering footstep falls.
 The sound of thy merry voice
 Makes the old walls
 Jubilant, and they rejoice
 With the joy of thy young heart,
 O'er the light of whose gladness
 No shadows of sadness

Once, ah, once, within these walls,
 One whom memory oft recalls,
 The Father of his Country, dwelt.
 And yonder meadows broad and damp
 The fires of the besieging camp
 Encircled with a burning belt.
 Up and down these echoing stairs,
 Heavy with the weight of cares,
 Sounded his majestic tread ;
 Yes, within this very room
 Sat he in those hours of gloom,
 Weary both in heart and head.

But what are these grave thoughts to thee ?
 Out, out ! into the open air !
 Thy only dream is liberty,
 Thou carest little how or where.
 I see thee eager at thy play,
 Now shouting to the apples on the tree,
 With cheeks as round and red as they ;
 And now among the yellow stalks,
 Among the flowering shrubs and plants,
 As restless as the bee.
 Along the garden walks,
 The tracks of thy small carriage-wheels I trace ;
 And see at every turn how they efface
 Whole villages of sand-roofed tents,
 That rise like golden domes
 Above the cavernous and secret homes
 Of wandering and nomadic tribes of ants.
 Ah, cruel little Tamerlane,
 Who, with thy dreadful reign
 Dost persecute and overwhelm
 These hapless Troglodytes of thy realm !

What ! tired already ! with those suppliant
 looks,

And voice more beautiful than a poet's books,
 Or murmuring sound of water as it flows,
 Thou comest back to parley with repose !
 This rustic seat in the old apple-tree,
 With its o'erhanging golden canopy
 Of leaves illuminate with autumnal hues,
 And shining with the argent light of dews,
 Shall for a season be our place of rest.
 Beneath us, like an oriole's pendent nest,
 From which the laughing birds have taken
 wing,

By thee abandoned, hangs thy vacant swing.
 Dream-like the waters of the river gleam ;
 A sailless vessel drops adown the stream,
 And like it, to a sea as wide and deep,

O child ! O new-born denizen
 Of life's great city ! on thy head
 The glory of the morn is shed,
 Like a celestial benison !
 Here at the portal thou dost stand,
 And with thy little hand
 Thou openest the mysterious gate
 Into the future's undiscovered land.
 I see its valves expand,
 As at the touch of Fate !
 Into those realms of love and hate,
 Into that darkness blank and drear,
 By some prophetic feeling taught,
 I launch the bold, adventurous thought,
 Freight with hope and fear ;
 As upon subterranean streams,
 In caverns unexplored and dark,
 Men sometimes launch a fragile bark,
 Laden with flickering fire,
 And watch its swift-receding beams,
 Until at length they disappear,
 And in the distant dark expire.

By what astrology of fear or hope
 Dare I to cast thy horoscope !
 Like the new moon thy life appears ;
 A little strip of silver light,
 And widening outward into night
 The shadowy disk of future years ;
 And yet upon its outer rim,
 A luminous circle, faint and dim,
 And scarcely visible to us here,
 Rounds and completes the perfect sphere ;
 A prophecy and intimation,
 A pale and feeble adumbration,
 Of the great world of light, that lies
 Behind all human destinies.

Ah ! if thy fate, with anguish fraught,
 Should be to wet the dusty soil
 With the hot tears and sweat of toil, —
 To struggle with imperious thought,
 Until the overburdened brain,
 Weary with labor, faint with pain,
 Like a jarred pendulum, retain
 Only its motion, not its power, —
 Remember, in that perilous hour,
 When most afflicted and oppressed,
 From labor there shall come forth rest.

And if a more auspicious fate
 On thy advancing steps await,
 Still let it ever be thy pride

With words of sympathy or song
 To cheer the dreary march along
 Of the great army of the poor,
 O'er desert sand, o'er dangerous moor.
 Nor to thyself the task shall be
 Without reward ; for thou shalt learn
 The wisdom early to discern
 True beauty in utility ;
 As great Pythagoras of yore,
 Standing beside the blacksmith's door,
 And hearing the hammers, as they smote
 The anvils with a different note,
 Stole from the varying tones, that hung
 Vibrant on every iron tongue,
 The secret of the sounding wire,
 And formed the seven-chorded lyre.

Enough ! I will not play the Seer ;
 I will no longer strive to ope
 The mystic volume, where appear
 The herald Hope, forerunning Fear,
 And Fear, the pursuivant of Hope.
 Thy destiny remains untold ;
 For, like Aestes' shaft of old,
 The swift thought kindles as it flies,
 And burns to ashes in the skies.

THE OCCULTATION OF ORION.

I SAW, as in a dream sublime,
 The balance in the hand of Time.
 O'er East and West its beam impended ;
 And day, with all its hours of light,
 Was slowly sinking out of sight,
 While, opposite, the scale of night
 Silently with the stars ascended.

Like the astrologers of eld,
 In that bright vision I beheld
 Greater and deeper mysteries.
 I saw, with its celestial keys,
 Its chords of air, its frets of fire,
 The Samian's great Æolian lyre,
 Rising through all its sevenfold bars,
 From earth unto the fixed stars.
 And through the dewy atmosphere,
 Not only could I see, but hear,
 Its wondrous and harmonious strings,
 In sweet vibration, sphere by sphere,
 Diana's circle light and near,

Where, chanting through his beard of snows,
 Majestic, mournful, Saturn goes,
 And down the sunless realms of space
 Reverberates the thunder of his bass.

Beneath the sky's triumphal arch
 This music sounded like a march,
 And with its chorus seemed to be
 Preluding some great tragedy.
 Sirius was rising in the east ;
 And, slow ascending one by one,
 The kindling constellations shone.
 Begirt with many a blazing star,
 Stood the great giant Algebar,
 Orion, hunter of the beast !
 His sword hung gleaming by his side,
 And, on his arm, the lion's hide
 Scattered across the midnight air
 The golden radiance of its hair.

The moon was pallid, but not faint ;
 And beautiful as some fair saint,
 Serenely moving on her way
 In hours of trial and dismay.
 As if she heard the voice of God,
 Unharm'd with naked feet she trod
 Upon the hot and burning stars,
 As on the glowing coals and bars
 That were to prove her strength, and try
 Her holiness and her purity.

Thus moving on, with silent pace,
 And triumph in her sweet, pale face,
 She reached the station of Orion.
 Aghast he stood in strange alarm !
 And suddenly from his outstretched arm
 Down fell the red skin of the lion
 Into the river at his feet.
 His mighty club no longer beat
 The forehead of the bull ; but he
 Reeled as of yore beside the sea,
 When, blinded by CEnopion,
 He sought the blacksmith at his forge,
 And, climbing up the mountain gorge,
 Fixed his blank eyes upon the sun.

Then, through the silence overhead,
 An angel with a trumpet said,
 " Forevermore, forevermore,
 The reign of violence is o'er ! "
 And, like an instrument that flings
 Its music on another's strings,
 The trumpet of the angel cast

And on from sphere to sphere the words
 Reëchoed down the burning chords, —
 “Forevermore, forevermore,
 The reign of violence is o’er!”

THE BRIDGE.

I stood on the bridge at midnight,
 As the clocks were striking the hour,
 And the moon rose o’er the city,
 Behind the dark church-tower.

I saw her bright reflection
 In the waters under me,
 Like a golden goblet falling
 And sinking into the sea.

And far in the hazy distance
 Of that lovely night in June,
 The blaze of the flaming furnace
 Gleamed redder than the moon.

Among the long, black rafters
 The wavering shadows lay,
 And the current that came from the ocean
 Seemed to lift and bear them away ;

As, sweeping and eddying through them,
 Rose the belated tide,
 And, streaming into the moonlight,
 The seaweed floated wide.

And like those waters rushing
 Among the wooden piers,
 A flood of thoughts came o’er me
 That filled my eyes with tears.

How often, O, how often,
 In the days that had gone by,
 I had stood on that bridge at midnight
 And gazed on that wave and sky !

How often, O, how often,
 I had wished that the ebbing tide
 Would bear me away on its bosom
 O’er the ocean wild and wide !

For my heart was hot and restless,
 And my life was full of care,
 And the burden laid upon me
 Seemed greater than I could bear.

But now it has fallen from me,
 It is buried in the sea ;
 And only the sorrow of others

Yet whenever I cross the river
 On its bridge with wooden piers,
 Like the odor of brine from the ocean
 Comes the thought of other years.

And I think how many thousands
 Of care-encumbered men,
 Each bearing his burden of sorrow,
 Have crossed the bridge since then.

I see the long procession
 Still passing to and fro,
 The young heart hot and restless,
 And the old subdued and slow !

And forever and forever,
 As long as the river flows,
 As long as the heart has passions,
 As long as life has woes ;

The moon and its broken reflection
 And its shadow shall appear,
 As the symbol of love in heaven,
 And its wavering image here.

TO THE DRIVING CLOUD.

Gloomy and dark art thou, O chief of the
 mighty Omawhaws ;
 Gloomy and dark, as the driving cloud, whose
 name thou hast taken !
 Wrapt in thy scarlet blanket, I see thee stalk
 through the city’s

Narrow and populous streets, as once by the
 margin of rivers
 Stalked those birds unknown, that have left us
 only their footprints.

What, in a few short years, will remain of thy
 race but the footprints !

How canst thou walk in these streets, who hast
 trod the green turf of the prairies !
 How canst thou breathe in this air, who hast
 breathed the sweet air of the mountains !
 Ah ! ’t is in vain that with lordly looks of dis-
 dain thou dost challenge

Looks of dislike in return, and question these
 walls and these pavements,
 Claiming the soil for thy hunting-grounds, while
 down-trodden millions

Starve in the garrets of Europe, and cry from
 its caverns that they, too,
 Have been created heirs of the earth, and cl

Back, then, back to thy woods in the regions
west of the Wabash !
There as a monarch thou reignest. In autumn
the leaves of the maple
Pave the floors of thy palace-halls with gold,
and in summer
Pine-trees waft through its chambers the odor-
ous breath of their branches.
There thou art strong and great, a hero, a tamer
of horses !
There thou chasest the stately stag on the banks
of the Elk-horn,
Or by the roar of the Running-Water, or where
the Omawhaw
Calls thee, and leaps through the wild ravine
like a brave of the Blackfeet !
Hark ! what murmurs arise from the heart of
those mountainous deserts ?
Is it the cry of the Foxes and Crows, or the
mighty Behemoth,

Who, unharmed, on his tusks once caught the
bolts of the thunder,
And now lurks in his lair to destroy the race
of the red man ?
Far more fatal to thee and thy race than the
Crows and the Foxes,
Far more fatal to thee and thy race than the
tread of Behemoth,
Lo ! the big thunder-canoe, that steadily breasts
the Missouri's
Merciless current ! and yonder, afar on the
prairies, the camp-fires
Gleam through the night ; and the cloud of
dust in the gray of the daybreak
Marks not the buffalo's track, nor the Mandan's
dexterous horse-race ;
It is a caravan, whitening the desert where
dwell the Camanches !
Ha ! how the breath of these Saxons and Celts,
like the blast of the east-wind,
Drifts evermore to the west the scanty smokes
of thy wigwams !

SONGS.

SEAWEED.

WHEN descends on the Atlantic
The gigantic
Storm-wind of the equinox,
Landward in his wrath he scourges
The toiling surges,
Laden with seaweed from the rocks :

From Bermuda's reefs ; from edges
Of sunken ledges,
In some far-off, bright Azore ;
From Bahama, and the dashing,
Silver-flashing
Surges of San Salvador ;

From the tumbling surf, that buries
The Orkneyan skerries,
Answering the hoarse Hebrides ;
And from wrecks of ships, and drifting
Spars, uplifting
On the desolate, rainy seas ; —

Ever drifting, drifting, drifting

Currents of the restless main ;
Till in sheltered coves, and reaches
Of sandy beaches,
All have found repose again.

So when storms of wild emotion
Strike the ocean
Of the poet's soul, ere long
From each cave and rocky fastness,
In its vastness,
Floats some fragment of a song :

From the far-off isles enchanted,
Heaven has planted
With the golden fruit of Truth ;
From the flashing surf, whose vision
Gleams Elysian
In the tropic clime of Youth ;

From the strong Will, and the Endeavour
That forever
Wrestles with the tides of Fate ;
From the wreck of Hopes far-scattered,
Tempest-shattered,
Floating waste and desolate :

Ever drifting, drifting, drifting
 On the shifting
 Currents of the restless heart ;
 Till at length in books recorded,
 They, like hoarded
 Household words, no more depart.

THE DAY IS DONE.

THE day is done, and the darkness
 Falls from the wings of Night,
 As a feather is wafted downward
 From an eagle in his flight.

I see the lights of the village
 Gleam through the rain and the mist,
 And a feeling of sadness comes o'er me,
 That my soul cannot resist :

A feeling of sadness and longing,
 That is not akin to pain,
 And resembles sorrow only
 As the mist resembles the rain.

Come, read to me some poem,
 Some simple and heartfelt lay,
 That shall soothe this restless feeling,
 And banish the thoughts of day.

Not from the grand old masters,
 Not from the bards sublime,
 Whose distant footsteps echo
 Through the corridors of Time.

For, like strains of martial music,
 Their mighty thoughts suggest
 Life's endless toil and endeavour ;
 And to-night I long for rest.

Read from some humbler poet,
 Whose songs gushed from his heart,
 As showers from the clouds of summer,
 Or tears from the eyelids start ;

Who, through long days of labor,
 And nights devoid of ease,
 Still heard in his soul the music
 Of wonderful melodies.

Such songs have power to quiet
 The restless pulse of care,
 And come like the benediction

Then read from the treasured volume
 The poem of thy choice,
 And lend to the rhyme of the poet
 The beauty of thy voice.

And the night shall be filled with music,
 And the cares, that infest the day,
 Shall fold their tents, like the Arabs,
 And as silently steal away.

AFTERNOON IN FEBRUARY.

THE day is ending,
 The night is descending ;
 The marsh is frozen,
 The river dead.

Through clouds like ashes,
 The red sun flashes
 On village windows
 That glimmer red.

The snow recommences ;
 The buried fences
 Mark no longer
 The road o'er the plain ;

While through the meadows,
 Like fearful shadows,
 Slowly passes
 A funeral train.

The bell is pealing,
 And every feeling
 Within me responds
 To the dismal knell ;

Shadows are trailing,
 My heart is bewailing
 And tolling within
 Like a funeral bell.

TO AN OLD DANISH SONG-BOOK.

WELCOME, my old friend,
 Welcome to a foreign fireside,
 While the sullen gales of autumn
 Shake the windows.

The ungrateful world
 Has, it seems, dealt harshly with thee,
 Since, beneath the skies of Denmark,

There are marks of age,
There are thumb-marks on thy margin,
Made by hands that clasped thee rudely,
At the alehouse.

Soiled and dull thou art ;
Yellow are thy time-worn pages,
As the russet, rain-molested
Leaves of autumn.

Thou art stained with wine
Scattered from hilarious goblets,
As these leaves with the libations
Of Olympus.

Yet dost thou recall
Days departed, half-forgotten,
When in dreamy youth I wandered
By the Baltic, —

When I paused to hear
The old ballad of King Christian
Shouted from suburban taverns
In the twilight.

Thou recallest bards,
Who, in solitary chambers,
And with hearts by passion wasted,
Wrote thy pages.

Thou recallest homes
Where thy songs of love and friendship
Made the gloomy Northern winter
Bright as summer.

Once some ancient Scald,
In his bleak, ancestral Iceland,
Chanted staves of these old ballads
To the Vikings.

Once in Elsinore,
At the court of old King Hamlet,
Yorick and his boon companions
Sang these ditties.

Once Prince Frederick's Guard
Sang them in their smoky barracks ; —
Suddenly the English cannon
Joined the chorus !

Peasants in the field,
Sailors on the roaring ocean,
Students, tradesmen, pale mechanics,

Thou hast been their friend ;
They, alas ! have left thee friendless !
Yet at least by one warm fireside
Art thou welcome.

And, as swallows build
In these wide, old-fashioned chimneys,
So thy twittering songs shall nestle
In my bosom, —

Quiet, close, and warm,
Sheltered from all molestation,
And recalling by their voices
Youth and travel.

WALTER VON DER VOGELWEIDE.

VOGELWEID the Minnesinger,
When he left this world of ours,
Laid his body in the cloister,
Under Würtzburg's minster towers.

And he gave the monks his treasures,
Gave them all with this behest :
They should feed the birds at noontide
Daily on his place of rest ;

Saying, " From these wandering minstrels
I have learned the art of song ;
Let me now repay the lessons
They have taught so well and long."

Thus the bard of love departed ;
And, fulfilling his desire,
On his tomb the birds were feasted
By the children of the choir.

Day by day, o'er tower and turret,
In foul weather and in fair,
Day by day, in vaster numbers,
Flocked the poets of the air.

On the tree whose heavy branches
Overshadowed all the place,
On the pavement, on the tombstone,
On the poet's sculptured face,

On the cross-bars of each window,
On the lintel of each door,
They renewed the War of Wartburg,
Which the bard had fought before.

There they sang their merry carols,
Sang their lauds on every side ;
And the name their voices uttered

Till at length the portly abbot
Murmured, "Why this waste of food!
Be it changed to loaves henceforward
For our fasting brotherhood."

Then in vain o'er tower and turret,
From the walls and woodland nests,
When the minster bells rang noontide,
Gathered the unwelcome guests.

Then in vain, with cries discordant,
Clamorous round the Gothic spire,
Screamed the feathered Minnesingers
For the children of the choir.

Time has long effaced the inscriptions
On the cloister's funeral stones,
And tradition only tells us
Where repose the poet's bones.

But around the vast cathedral,
By sweet echoes multiplied,
Still the birds repeat the legend,
And the name of Vogelweid.

DRINKING SONG.

INSCRIPTION FOR AN ANTIQUE PITCHER.

COME, old friend! sit down and listen!
From the pitcher, placed between us,
How the waters laugh and glisten
In the head of old Silenus!

Old Silenus, bloated, drunken,
Led by his inebriate Satyrs;
On his breast his head is sunken,
Vacantly he leers and chatters.

Fauns with youthful Bacchus follow;
Ivy crowns that brow supernal
As the forehead of Apollo,
And possessing youth eternal.

Round about him, fair Bacchantes,
Bearing cymbals, flutes, and thyrses,
Wild from Naxian groves, or Zante's
Vineyards, sing delirious verses.

Thus he won, through all the nations,
Bloodless victories, and the farmer
Bore, as trophies and oblations,

Judged by no o'erzealous rigor,
Much this mystic throng expresses:
Bacchus was the type of vigor,
And Silenus of excesses.

These are ancient ethnic revels,
Of a faith long since forsaken;
Now the Satyrs, changed to devils,
Frighten mortals wine-o'ertaken.

Now to rivulets from the mountains
Point the rods of fortune-tellers;
Youth perpetual dwells in fountains, —
Not in flasks, and casks, and cellars.

Claudius, though he sang of flagons
And huge tankards filled with Rhenish,
From that fiery blood of dragons
Never would his own replenish.

Even Redi, though he chaunted
Bacchus in the Tuscan valleys,
Never drank the wine he vaunted
In his dithyrambic sallies.

Then with water fill the pitcher
Wreathed about with classic fables;
Ne'er Falernian threw a richer
Light upon Lucullus' tables.

Come, old friend, sit down and listen!
As it passes thus between us,
How its wavelets laugh and glisten
In the head of old Silenus!

THE OLD CLOCK ON THE STAIRS.

*L'éternité est une pendule, dont le balancier dit et rellit
sans cesse ces deux mots seulement, dans le silence des
tombeaux: "Toujours! jamais! Jamais! toujours!"*

JACQUES BRIDAINE.

SOMEWHAT back from the village street
Stands the old-fashioned country-seat.
Across its antique portico
Tall poplar-trees their shadows throw;
And from its station in the hall
An ancient timepiece says to all, —
"Forever — never!
Never — forever!"

Halfway up the stairs it stands,
And points and beckons with its hands
From its case of massive oak,

Crosses himself, and sighs, alas !
 With sorrowful voice to all who pass, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

By day its voice is low and light ;
 But in the silent dead of night,
 Distinct as a passing footstep's fall,
 It echoes along the vacant hall,
 Along the ceiling, along the floor,
 And seems to say, at each chamber-door, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

Through days of sorrow and of mirth,
 Through days of death and days of birth,
 Through every swift vicissitude
 Of changeful time, unchanged it has stood,
 And as if, like God, it all things saw,
 It calmly repeats those words of awe, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

In that mansion used to be
 Free-hearted Hospitality ;
 His great fires up the chimney roared ;
 The stranger feasted at his board ;
 But, like the skeleton at the feast,
 That warning timepiece never ceased, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

There groups of merry children played,
 There youths and maidens dreaming strayed ;
 O precious hours ! O golden prime,
 And affluence of love and time !
 Even as a miser counts his gold,
 Those hours the ancient timepiece told, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

From that chamber, clothed in white,
 The bride came forth on her wedding night ;

There, in that silent room below,
 The dead lay in his shroud of snow ;
 And in the hush that followed the prayer
 Was heard the old clock on the stair, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

All are scattered now and fled,
 Some are married, some are dead ;
 And when I ask, with throbs of pain,
 “ Ah ! when shall they all meet again ? ”
 As in the days long since gone by,
 The ancient timepiece makes reply, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

Never here, forever there,
 Where all parting, pain, and care,
 And death, and time shall disappear, —
 Forever there, but never here !
 The horologe of Eternity
 Sayeth this incessantly, —
 “ Forever — never !
 Never — forever ! ”

THE ARROW AND THE SONG.

I SHOT an arrow into the air,
 It fell to earth, I knew not where ;
 For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
 Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,
 It fell to earth, I knew not where ;
 For who has sight so keen and strong,
 That it can follow the flight of song ?

Long, long afterward, in an oak
 I found the arrow, still unbroke ;
 And the song, from beginning to end,
 I found again in the heart of a friend.

SONNETS.

THE EVENING STAR.

So ! in the painted oriel of the West,
 Whose panes the sunken sun incarnadines,
 There a fair lady at her casement, shines

And then anon she doth herself divest
 Of all her radiant garments, and reclines
 Behind the sombre screen of yonder pines,
 With slumber and soft dreams of love op-

O my beloved, my sweet Hesperus !
 My morning and my evening star of love !
 My best and gentlest lady ! even thus,
 As that fair planet in the sky above,
 Dost thou retire unto thy rest at night,
 And from thy darkened window fades the light.

AUTUMN.

THOU comest, Autumn, heralded by the rain,
 With banners, by great gales incessant fanned,
 Brighter than brightest silks of Samarcand,
 And stately oxen harnessed to thy wain !
 Thou standest, like imperial Charlemagne,
 Upon thy bridge of gold ; thy royal hand
 Outstretched with benedictions o'er the land,
 Blessing the farms through all thy vast domain !
 Thy shield is the red harvest moon, suspended
 So long beneath the heaven's o'erhanging
 eaves ;
 Thy steps are by the farmer's prayers attended ;
 Like flames upon an altar shine the sheaves ;

And, following thee, in thy ovation splendid,
 Thine almoner, the wind, scatters the golden
 leaves !

DANTE.

TUSCAN, that wanderest through the realms of
 gloom,
 With thoughtful pace, and sad, majestic eyes,
 Stern thoughts and awful from thy soul arise,
 Like Farinata from his fiery tomb.
 Thy sacred song is like the trump of doom ;
 Yet in thy heart what human sympathies,
 What soft compassion glows, as in the skies
 The tender stars their clouded lamps relume !
 Methinks I see thee stand, with pallid cheeks,
 By Fra Hilario in his diocese,
 As up the convent-walls, in golden streaks,
 The ascending sunbeams mark the day's de-
 crease ;
 And, as he asks what there the stranger seeks,
 Thy voice along the cloister whispers,
 "Peace!"

TRANSLATIONS.

THE HEMLOCK TREE.

FROM THE GERMAN.

O HEMLOCK tree ! O hemlock tree ! how faith-
 ful are thy branches !

Green not alone in summer time,
 But in the winter's frost and rime !

O hemlock tree ! O hemlock tree ! how faith-
 ful are thy branches !

O maiden fair ! O maiden fair ! how faithless
 is thy bosom !

To love me in prosperity,
 And leave me in adversity !

O maiden fair ! O maiden fair ! how faithless
 is thy bosom !

The nightingale, the nightingale, thou tak'st
 for thine example !

So long as summer laughs she sings,
 But in the autumn spreads her wings.

The nightingale, the nightingale, thou tak'st

The meadow brook, the meadow brook, is mine
 ror of thy falsehood !

It flows so long as falls the rain,
 In drought its springs soon dry again.

The meadow brook, the meadow brook, is mine
 ror of thy falsehood !

THE STATUE OVER THE CATHEDRAL DOOR.

FROM THE GERMAN OF JULIUS MOSEN.

FORMS of saints and kings are standing
 The cathedral door above ;
 Yet I saw but one among them
 Who hath soothed my soul with love.

In his mantle, — wound about him,
 As their robes the sowers wind, —
 Bore he swallows and their fle-

And so stands he calm and childlike,
 High in wind and tempest wild ;
 O, were I like him exalted,
 I would be like him, a child !

And my songs, — green leaves and blossoms, —
 To the doors of heaven would bear,
 Calling, even in storm and tempest,
 Round me still these birds of air.

Thou little, youthful maiden,
 Come unto my great heart ;
 My heart, and the sea, and the heaven
 Are melting away with love !

ANNIE OF THARAW.

FROM THE LOW GERMAN OF SIMON DACH.

ANNIE of Tharaw, my true love of old,
 She is my life, and my goods, and my gold.

Annie of Tharaw, her heart once again
 To me has surrendered in joy and in pain.

Annie of Tharaw, my riches, my good,
 Thou, O my soul, my flesh and my blood !

Then come the wild weather, come sleet or
 come snow,
 We will stand by each other, however it blow.

Oppression, and sickness, and sorrow, and pain
 Shall be to our true love as links to the chain.

As the palm-tree standeth so straight and so
 tall,
 The more the hail beats, and the more the rains
 fall, —

So love in our hearts shall grow mighty and
 strong,
 Through crosses, through sorrows, through
 manifold wrong.

Shouldst thou be torn from me to wander alone
 In a desolate land where the sun is scarce
 known, —

Through forests I 'll follow, and where the sea
 flows,
 Through ice, and through iron, through armies
 of foes.

Annie of Tharaw, my light and my sun,
 The threads of our two lives are woven in
 one.

Whate'er I have bidden thee thou hast obeyed,
 Whatever forbidden thou hast not gainsaid.

How in the turmoil of life can love stand,
 Where there is not one heart, and one mouth,
 and one hand !

Some seek for dissension, and trouble, and
 strife ;

THE LEGEND OF THE CROSSBILL.

FROM THE GERMAN OF JULIUS MOSEN.

On the cross the dying Saviour
 Heavenward lifts his eyelids calm,
 Feels, but scarcely feels, a trembling
 In his pierced and bleeding palm.

And by all the world forsaken,
 Sees he how with zealous care
 At the ruthless nail of iron
 A little bird is striving there.

Stained with blood and never tiring,
 With its beak it doth not cease,
 From the cross 't would free the Saviour,
 Its Creator's Son release.

And the Saviour speaks in mildness :
 "Blest be thou of all the good !
 Bear, as token of this moment,
 Marks of blood and holy rood !"

And that bird is called the crossbill ;
 Covered all with blood so clear,
 In the groves of pine it singeth
 Songs, like legends, strange to hear.

THE SEA HATH ITS PEARLS.

FROM THE GERMAN OF HEINRICH HEINE.

THE sea hath its pearls,
 The heaven hath its stars ;
 But my heart, my heart,
 My heart hath its love.

Great are the sea and the heaven ;
 Yet greater is my heart,
 And fairer than pearls and stars

Annie of Tharaw, such is not our love ;
Thou art my lambkin, my chick, and my dove.

Whate'er my desire is, in thine may be seen ;
I am king of the household, and thou art its queen.

It is this, O my Annie, my heart's sweetest rest,
That makes of us twain but one soul in one breast.

This turns to a heaven the hut where we dwell ;
While wrangling soon changes a home to a hell.

POETIC APHORISMS.

FROM THE SINNGEDICHTE OF FRIEDRICH VON
LOGAU.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

MONEY.

WHEREUNTO is money good !
Who has it not wants hardihood,
Who has it has much trouble and care,
Who once has had it has despair.

THE BEST MEDICINES.

Joy and Temperance and Repose
Slam the door on the doctor's nose.

SIN.

Man-like is it to fall into sin,
Fiend-like is it to dwell therein,
Christ-like is it for sin to grieve,
God-like is it all sin to leave.

POVERTY AND BLINDNESS.

A blind man is a poor man, and blind a poor man is ;
For the former seeth no man, and the latter no man sees.

LAW OF LIFE.

Live I, so live I,
To my Lord heartily,
To my Prince faithfully,
To my Neighbour honestly.

CREEDS.

Lutheran, Popish, Calvinistic, all these creed
and doctrines three
Are extant ; but still the doubt is, where Christianity may be.

THE RESTLESS HEART.

A millstone and the human heart are driven
ever round ;
If they have nothing else to grind, they must
themselves be ground.

CHRISTIAN LOVE.

Whilom Love was like a fire, and warmth and
comfort it bespoke ;
But, alas ! it now is quenched, and only bites
us, like the smoke.

ART AND TACT.

Intelligence and courtesy not always are combined ;
Often in a wooden house a golden room we find.

RETRIBUTION.

Though the mills of God grind slowly, yet
they grind exceeding small ;
Though with patience he stands waiting, with
exactness grinds he all.

TRUTH.

When by night the frogs are croaking, kindle
but a torch's fire,
Ha ! how soon they all are silent ! Thus
Truth silences the liar.

RHYMES.

If perhaps these rhymes of mine sound not
well in strangers' ears,
They have only to bethink them that it happens
so with theirs ;
For so long as words, like mortals, call a fa-
ther-land their own,
They will be most highly valued, who

C U R F E W .

I.

SOLEMNLY, mournfully,
Dealing its dole,
The Curfew Bell
Is beginning to toll.

Cover the embers,
And put out the light ;
Toil comes with the morning,
And rest with the night.

Dark grow the windows,
And quenched is the fire ;
Sound fades into silence, —
All footsteps retire.

No voice in the chambers,
No sound in the hall !
Sleep and oblivion
Reign over all !

II.

THE book is completed,
And closed, like the day ;
And the hand that has written it
Lays it away.

Dim grow its fancies ;
Forgotten they lie ;
Like coals in the ashes,
They darken and die.

Song sinks into silence,
The story is told,
The windows are darkened,
The hearth-stone is cold.

Darker and darker
The black shadows fall ;
Sleep and oblivion
Reign over all.

N O T E S .

Page 98. *All the Foresters of Flanders.*

The title of Foresters was given to the early governors of Flanders, appointed by the kings of France. Lyderick du Bucq, in the days of Clotaire the Second, was the first of them ; and Beaudoin Bras-de-Fer, who stole away the fair Judith, daughter of Charles the Bald, from the French court, and married her in Bruges, was the last. After him, the title of Forester was changed to that of Count. Philippe d'Alsace, Guy de Dampierre, and Louis de Crécy, coming later in the order of time, were therefore rather Counts than Foresters. Philippe went twice to the Holy Land as a Crusader, and died of the plague at St. Jean-d'Acre, shortly after the capture of the city by the Christians. Guy de Dampierre died in the prison of Compiègne. Louis de Crécy was son and successor of Robert de Béthune, who strangled his wife, Yolande de Bourgogne, with the bridle of his horse, for having poisoned, at the age of eleven years, Charles, his son by his first wife, Blanche d'Anjou.

Page 98. *Stately dames, like queens attended.*

Flanders with his queen, she was so astonished at the magnificence of the dames of Bruges, that she exclaimed : " Je croyais être seule reine ici, mais il parait que ceux de Flandre qui se trouvent dans nos prisons sont tous des princes, car leurs femmes sont habillées comme des princesses et des reines."

When the burgomasters of Ghent, Bruges, and Ypres went to Paris to pay homage to King John, in 1351, they were received with great pomp and distinction ; but, being invited to a festival, they observed that their seats at table were not furnished with cushions ; whereupon, to make known their displeasure at this want of regard to their dignity, they folded their richly embroidered cloaks and seated themselves upon them. On rising from table, they left their cloaks behind them, and, being informed of their apparent forgetfulness, Simon van Eertrycke, burgomaster of Bruges, replied : " We Flemings are not in the habit of carrying away our cushions after dinner."

Page 14. *Knights who bore the Fleece of Gold.*

poused Isabella of Portugal, on the 10th of January, 1430; and on the same day instituted the famous order of the Fleece of Gold.

Page 98. *I beheld the gentle Mary.*

Marie de Valois, Duchess of Burgundy, was left by the death of her father, Charles-le-Téméraire, at the age of twenty, the richest heiress of Europe. She came to Bruges, as Countess of Flanders, in 1477, and in the same year was married by proxy to the Archduke Maximilian. According to the custom of the time, the Duke of Bavaria, Maximilian's substitute, slept with the princess. They were both in complete dress, separated by a naked sword, and attended by four armed guards. Isabella was adored by her subjects for her gentleness and her many other virtues.

Maximilian was son of the Emperor Frederick the Third, and is the same person mentioned afterwards in the poem of *Nuremberg* as the Kaiser Maximilian, and the hero of Pfinzing's poem of *Teuerdank*. Having been imprisoned by the revolted burghers of Bruges, they refused to release him, till he consented to kneel in the public square, and to swear on the Holy Evangelists and the body of Saint Donatus, that he would not take vengeance upon them for their rebellion.

Page 98. *The bloody battle of the Spurs of Gold.*

This battle, the most memorable in Flemish history, was fought under the walls of Courtray, on the 11th of July, 1302, between the French and the Flemings, the former commanded by Robert, Comte d'Artois, and the latter by Guillaume de Juliers, and Jean, Comte de Namur. The French army was completely routed, with a loss of twenty thousand infantry and seven thousand cavalry; among whom were sixty-three princes, dukes, and counts, seven hundred lords-banneret, and eleven hundred noblemen. The flower of the French nobility perished on that day; to which history has given the name of the *Journée des Éperons d'Or*, from the great number of golden spurs found on the field of battle. Seven hundred of them were hung up as a trophy in the church of Notre Dame de Courtray; and, as the cavaliers of that day wore but a single spur each, these vouched to God for the violent and bloody death of seven hundred of his creatures.

Page 98. *Saw the fight at Minnewater.*

When the inhabitants of Bruges were digging

Lys from Deynze to their city, they were attacked and routed by the citizens of Ghent, whose commerce would have been much injured by the canal. They were led by Jean Lyons, captain of a military company at Ghent, called the *Chaperons Blancs*. He had great sway over the turbulent populace, who, in those prosperous times of the city, gained an easy livelihood by laboring two or three days in the week, and had the remaining four or five to devote to public affairs. The fight at Minnewater was followed by open rebellion against Louis de Maele, the Count of Flanders and Protector of Bruges. His superb château of Wondelghem was pillaged and burnt; and the insurgents forced the gates of Bruges, and entered in triumph, with Lyons mounted at their head. A few days afterwards he died suddenly, perhaps by poison.

Meanwhile the insurgents received a check at the village of Nevèle; and two hundred of them perished in the church, which was burned by the count's orders. One of the chiefs, Jean de Lannoy, took refuge in the belfry. From the summit of the tower he held forth his purse filled with gold, and begged for deliverance. It was in vain. His enemies cried to him from below to save himself as best he might; and, half suffocated with smoke and flame, he threw himself from the tower and perished at their feet. Peace was soon afterwards established, and the count retired to faithful Bruges.

Page 98. *The Golden Dragon's nest.*

The Golden Dragon, taken from the church of St. Sophia, at Constantinople, in one of the Crusades, and placed on the belfry of Bruges, was afterwards transported to Ghent by Philip van Artevelde, and still adorns the belfry of that city.

The inscription on the alarm-bell at Ghent is, "*Mynen naem is Roland; als ik klep is er brand, and als ik luy is er victorie in het land.*" My name is Roland; when I toll there is fire, and when I ring there is victory in the land.

Page 100. *That their great imperial city stretched its hand through every clime.*

An old popular proverb of the town runs thus:—

"*Nürnberg's Hand
Geht durch alle Land.*"
Nuremberg's hand
Goes through every land.

Page 100. *Sat the poet Melchior singing Kaiser Maximilian's praise.*

Melchior Pfinzing was one of the m

The hero of his *Teuerdank* was the reigning emperor, Maximilian; and the poem was to the Germans of that day what the *Orlando Furioso* was to the Italians. Maximilian is mentioned before, in the *Belfry of Bruges*. See note to page 98.

Page 100. *In the church of sainted Sebald sleeps enshrined his holy dust.*

The tomb of Saint Sebald, in the church which bears his name, is one of the richest works of art in Nuremberg. It is of bronze, and was cast by Peter Vischer and his sons, who labored upon it thirteen years. It is adorned with nearly one hundred figures, among which those of the Twelve Apostles are conspicuous for size and beauty.

Page 100. *In the church of sainted Lawrence stands a pix of sculpture rare.*

This pix, or tabernacle for the vessels of the sacrament, is by the hand of Adam Kraft. It is an exquisite piece of sculpture in white stone, and rises to the height of sixty-four feet. It stands in the choir, whose richly painted windows cover it with varied colors.

Page 100. *Wisest of the Twelve Wise Masters.*

The Twelve Wise Masters was the title of the original corporation of the Mastersingers. Hans Sachs, the cobbler of Nuremberg, though not one of the original Twelve, was the most renowned of the Mastersingers, as well as the most voluminous. He flourished in the sixteenth century; and left behind him thirty-four folio volumes of manuscript, containing two hundred and eight plays, one thousand and seven hundred comic tales, and between four and five thousand lyric poems.

Page 101. *As in Adam Puschman's song.*

Adam Puschman, in his poem on the death of Hans Sachs, describes him as he appeared in a vision:—

"An old man,
Gray and white, and dove-like,
Who had, in sooth, a great beard,
And read in a fair, great book,
Beautiful with golden clasps."

Page 105. *The Occultation of Orion.*

Astronomically speaking, this title is incorrect; as I apply to a constellation what can properly be applied to some of its stars only. But my observation is made from the hill of song, and not from that of science; and will, I trust, be found sufficiently accurate for the present purpose.

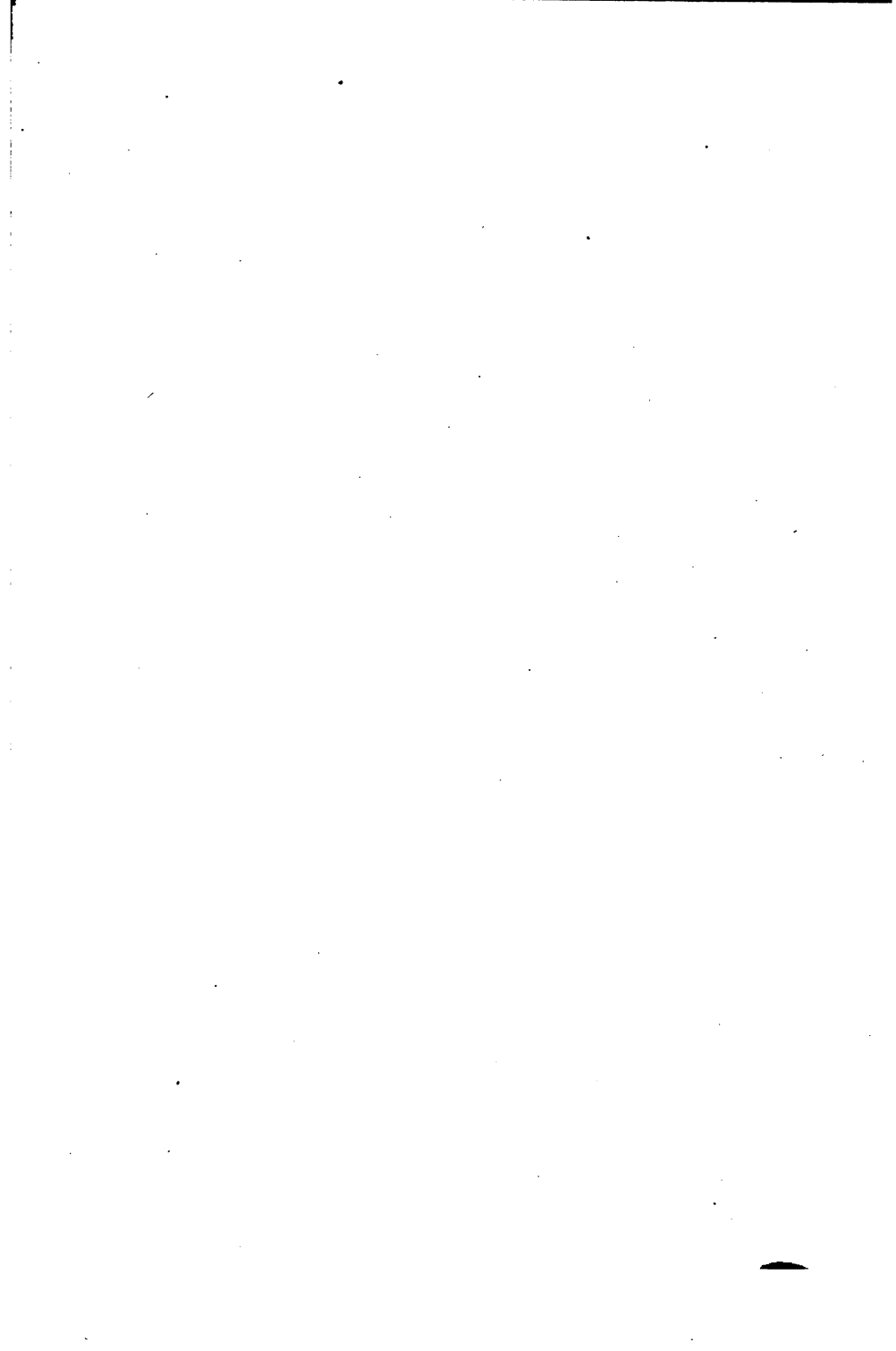
Page 109. *Walter von der Vogelweide.*

Walter von der Vogelweide, or Bird-Meadow, was one of the principal Minnesingers of the thirteenth century. He triumphed over Heinrich von Ofterdingen in that poetic contest at the Wartburg Castle, known in literary history as the War of Wartburg.

Page 112. *Like imperial Charlemagne.*

Charlemagne may be called by preëminence the monarch of farmers. According to the German tradition, in seasons of great abundance, his spirit crosses the Rhine on a golden bridge at Bingen, and blesses the cornfields and the vineyards. During his lifetime, he did not disdain, says Montesquieu, "to sell the eggs from the farm-yards of his domains, and the superfluous vegetables of his gardens; while he distributed among his people the wealth of the Lombards and the immense treasures of the Huns."





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